CITY HILIGHTS

The Truth Speaks

TUESDAY ▸ DECEMBER 30, 2025 ▸ VOL: 11 ▸ ISSUE: 165 ▸ PAGES 12 ▸ ₹2.00

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SC stays Unnao rape convict's suspension of life sentence

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday halted the Delhi High Court's order that had suspended the life sentence and granted bail to expelled BJP leader and Unnao rape convict Kuldeep Singh Sengar. The stay came while the court was hearing a petition filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation challenging the High Court's decision.

A three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, along with Justices JK Maheshwari and AG Masih, issued notice to Sengar and observed that the case raises significant legal questions regarding the High Court's approach in suspending the sentence. The apex court questioned whether the Delhi High Court had adequately examined Sengar's conviction under Section 376(2)(i) of the IPC while granting him relief.

Stating that the matter required detailed consideration, the bench clarified that although the general rule is to hear a person already released on bail before reversing such relief, Sengar remains in custody in another case. The court also remarked that amendments under the POCSO Act enhanced punishment rather than creating a new offence, emphasizing that judicial scrutiny is vital as "even the finest judges may err."

During the hearing, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the CBI, argued that the case involves the rape of a minor girl, and the conviction was based on findings that the survivor was 15 years and 10 months old. The Delhi High Court had suspended Sengar's life sentence on December 23, imposing strict bail conditions, including restrictions on movement and weekly reporting to police.

Reacting to the order the activist Yogita Bhayana said the order had wider implications. "This is not a fight of one victim alone, but of all girls. The Supreme Court itself noted that while stays are not usually granted, this case stands on a different footing," she said.

'Will not rest until he is hanged': Unnao rape survivor

The Unnao rape survivor on Monday expressed satisfaction in the Supreme Court order which stayed the Delhi High Court order suspending the life sentence of convict and former BJP MLA Kuldeep Sengar. "I am very happy with this decision. I have got justice from the Supreme Court. I have been raising my voice for justice from the very beginning," the survivor said. He added, "I will not rest until he is hanged. I will keep fighting. Only then will my family and I get justice."

QUICK READ

IIP growth hits 25-month high at 6.7% in Nov 2025

NEW DELHI: India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) surged 6.7% in November 2025, marking a 25-month high, driven by manufacturing and capital goods. Manufacturing grew 8%, while infrastructure and construction expanded 12.1%, their fastest pace since October 2023. The capital goods sector rose 10.4%, and mining climbed 5.4%, recovering from recent contractions. Only electricity contracted, down 1.5%.

SIR Special Roll Observer faces public ire

KOLKATA: Election Commission's Special Roll Observer (SRO) C. Murugan faced public anger during a SIR hearing at Magrahat in South 24 Parganas, West Bengal. A crowd, mostly women, blocked his vehicle, hitting its bonnet and windows, leaving the driver-side handle nearly torn off. Protestors at Shirakol High School alleged "unplanned implementation" of the SIR exercise, forcing the elderly, and pregnant to attend hearings.

Supreme Court stays its own order on defining Aravalli

Supreme Court stays November 20 Aravalli ruling, reopening definition, mining rules review, forming expert committee for ecological assessment

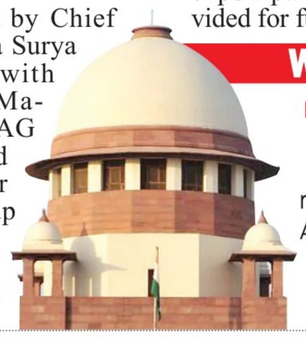
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday stayed its own November 20 judgment that had limited the definition of the Aravalli range to hill formations rising at least 100 metres above surrounding terrain. The court said the matter requires deeper scrutiny and decided to reopen the issue to comprehensively reconsider what constitutes the Aravalli hills and how mining activities should be regulated across the region.

A bench led by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, along with Justices JK Maheshwari and AG Masih, passed the interim order while taking up the matter suo motu. The court stated that the earlier ruling would remain "in abeyance" until a detailed examination, assisted by domain experts, is completed. It also proposed forming a high-powered expert committee to study ecological continuity, height-based classification, and permitted mining operations.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta welcomed the development, stating that several misconceptions surrounded the November judgment, though it was originally based on an expert panel report and provided for further planning and public consultations.

The bench expressed concern that restricting the Aravallis only to formations above 100 metres could shrink protected areas, create regulatory gaps, and fragment the ecologically sensitive mountain system. The court has issued notices to the Union government, concerned states and stakeholders, seeking their inputs on the proposed expert panel. Until further orders, the mapping and mining plans based on the earlier definition are likely to remain on hold.



Welcome SC order on Aravallis: Yadav

NEW DELHI: Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav on Monday welcomed the Supreme Court's decision. He said, "I welcome the Supreme Court directions introducing a stay on its order concerning the Aravalli range, and the formation of a new committee to study issues. We stand committed to extending all assistance sought from MOEFCC.

Congress hails SC stay on '100-metre Aravalli' definition

NEW DELHI: The Congress on Monday welcomed the Supreme Court's stay on its November 20 order redefining the Aravalli hills, calling it a temporary relief against threats from mining and real estate projects. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh demanded the resignation of Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, stating the apex court rejected all his arguments for the redefinition. The SC also proposed a high-powered committee of experts to examine the issue comprehensively.

CM directs strict measures in city ahead of NY celebrations

BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has directed officials to implement stringent security arrangements across Bengaluru to ensure peaceful and safe New Year celebrations. Chairing a high-level meeting with police and other department heads, he reviewed the precautionary measures in place and stressed the need for special focus on women's safety. Authorities have been instructed to ensure no untoward incidents occur during the festivities.

The Chief Minister said adequate BMTC bus services should be available even after midnight so that revelers can return home safely. He also directed officials to control overcrowding in busy locations such as MG Road, Brigade Road, Church Street, Koramangala, and Indiranagar, and to use modern surveillance systems effectively to manage crowds. Around 20,000 police personnel are being deployed in the city, along with 1,200 officers drawn from other districts.

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KOGILU EVICTION ROW

Govt to give alternate housing for eligible families, says CM

BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the state government has decided to arrange alternative housing for eligible families affected by the demolition of illegal sheds in Kogilu Layout. He stated that he has sought detailed information from the Deputy Commissioner and the BBMP Commissioner on who was residing in the demolished structures, and the list will be verified within two days.

Addressing a joint press confe rence with the Deputy Chief Minister, Siddaramaiah clarified that 167 illegal sheds had been removed after prior notices were issued, as the land belongs to the government. He warned that in future, officials themselves will be held responsible if illegal constructions are allowed to come up. Action has also been decided against revenue and civic officials who failed to identify the encroachments earlier.

The Chief Minister said temporary housing arrangements will be made for displaced families at Baiyappanahalli, where 1,187 houses are available. The government is considering allocating ₹11.20 lakh per house and providing separate assistance schemes for various categories, including SC/ST beneficiaries.

He added that AICC general secretary K.C. Venugopal discussed the situation with him and the Deputy Chief Minister, and they assured him that suitable rehabilitation would be ensured. Siddaramaiah reiterated that relocation at the same site is not possible since it is government land, but eligible beneficiaries will definitely be provided alternative accommodation.

'Is K'taka being ruled from Kerala?' Ashoka attacks Cong govt

UDUPI: BJP leader R. Ashoka accused the Congress government of surrendering Karnataka's authority to outside political forces, following controversy around Kogilu Layout demolition. Ashoka questioned why Congress leader K.C. Venugopal sought a report on the incident and why a delegation of Kerala legislators visited Bengaluru. "Is Karnataka being ruled by its elected government or by leaders from Kerala?" he asked.

Ashoka slams govt, says state run by drug mafia

UDUPI

BJP leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Karnataka Assembly R. Ashoka on Monday alleged that the state is being run by an organised drug mafia, accusing the Congress government of failing to control the narcotics trade.

Addressing reporters in Udupi, Ashoka referred to recent operations by Maharashtra Police in Bengaluru, where drugs worth crores of rupees were seized. "Why should police from another state come and expose drug networks here? Why did Karnataka Police and intelligence fail?" he questioned.

Ashoka said the seizures exposed the collapse of the state's intelligence system and criticised the Home Department for inaction. "Does the Home Minister have any accountability? For every issue, the response is that a report is awaited," he said.

Claiming that drugs worth ₹500–600 crore had entered Karnataka, Ashoka alleged police complicity in the distribution network. "Instead of celebrating the New Year, the state is witnessing drug celebrations," he remarked.

Ashoka accused Chief Minister Siddaramaiah of being distracted by internal power struggles within the Congress party and criticised the party's central leadership, including Rahul Gandhi.

Warning of a deteriorating law-and-order situation, Ashoka said the state risked becoming dependent on other states' police forces to maintain security. "When outsiders protect our law and order, it reflects the complete failure of this government," he said.

JDS demands Parameshwara's resignation over drugs seizure

The JD(S) launched a strong attack on the Karnataka government after Maharashtra Police seized drugs worth crores in Bengaluru, demanding Home Minister G Parameshwara's resignation. In a post on X, the party alleged that under Congress misrule, the state's intelligence and policing systems have collapsed. JD(S) said Karnataka, once peaceful, is turning into a drug hub, with Maharashtra Police even uncovering three drug manufacturing units in Bengaluru, exposing Karnataka Police's failure.

More on page 2

DEFENCE PREPAREDNESS

DAC approves ₹79,000 cr defence procurement proposals

NEW DELHI

The defence ministry on Monday approved procurement of long range rockets, missiles, radar systems and military platforms worth Rs 79,000 crore to bolster the military's combat prowess. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, green-lighted the proposals.

The DAC approved procurement of loiter munition systems for the Army's artillery regiments.

It also cleared acquisition of low level lightweight radars, long-range guided rocket ammunition for Pinaka rocket system and integrated drone detection and interdiction system (Mk-II) for the Indian Army, the defence ministry said.

Indian Navy
- BP Tugs (Bollard Pull Tugs)
- Software Defined Radio (HF SDR):
- HALE RPAS (Lease)

Air Force
- Astra MK-II Missile
- SPICE-1000 Guidance Kit
- Full Mission Simulator
- Automatic Take-Off Landing Recording System

Indian Army
- Low Level Light Weight Radars
- Pinaka MRLS
- Drone Detection System

Loiter munition will be used for precision strike of tactical targets, whereas low level lightweight radars will detect and track small size, low flying unmanned aerial systems, it said.

It said long range guided rockets are being procured to enhance the range and accuracy of Pinaka rocket systems for effective engagement of high value targets. Integrated drone detection and interdiction system (Mk-II) with enhanced range will protect the vital assets of the Indian Army in tactical battle area and hinterland.

The central government has taken a major strategic decision aimed at taking the operational capabilities and combat effectiveness of the Indian Armed Forces to new heights. The approvals primarily focus on future battlefield needs, such as drone technology, precision strike capabilities and advanced radar systems.

India rejects Pakistan claims on minority attack

NEW DELHI

India on Monday firmly rejected Pakistan's comments on the treatment of minorities in the country, stating that Islamabad has no moral ground to raise such allegations given its own "abysmal" human rights record. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said Pakistan's "horrific and systemic victimisation" of minorities belonging to various faiths is widely documented, and no amount of criticism aimed at India can conceal that reality.

Jaiswal's remarks came in response to statements by Pakistan foreign ministry spokesperson Tahir Andrabi, who claimed that minorities in India face persecution and cited incidents reported during recent Christmas celebrations, as well as alleged actions targeting Muslims. Andrabi also appealed to the international community to take note of these developments and safeguard the rights of vulnerable groups. Rejecting these claims, India reiterated that Pakistan routinely indulges in politically motivated statements while ignoring its long history of discrimination.

QUICK READ

Thugs Vandalise Pawn Shop in Bengaluru

Bengaluru

More than 10 thugs attacked a pawn shop in Kathriguppe, Banashankari III Stage, allegedly over a trivial dispute. The attackers barged into the pawn shop owned by Bashir, smashed liquor bottles and unleashed violence using maces and long sticks. The incident occurred on the busy main road, creating panic among residents and shopkeepers in the area. After vandalising the premises and assaulting Bashir, the assailants fled the scene. The attack took place under the jurisdiction of the Channamanakere Achukattu police station. Police have registered a case and launched a hunt to identify and nab the accused based on CCTV footage and eyewitness accounts.

Cylinder Explosion Triggers Panic in Bengaluru Suburb

Bengaluru

A cylinder explosion caused by gas leakage was reported at Balaji Enclave Layout on Nagaroor Road in Nelamangala, triggering panic among residents on Monday. The incident occurred at the rented house of Amaresh, owned by Kiran Kumar, in Balaji BGS Layout. Fire officials said the explosion was caused by accumulated gas due to leakage in the cylinder. Fortunately, no casualties were reported, though household articles were damaged in the blast. Gas dealers and officials reiterated the need to strictly follow safety guidelines, including switching off regulators when leaving home and placing cylinders in well-ventilated areas.

Drug Mafia Exploits Legal Loopholes, Runs Racket in Secluded Areas

Bengaluru

The master plan of a drug racket designed to evade police surveillance has come to light, revealing how accused exploited legal and jurisdictional loopholes to operate freely. According to sources, the accused deliberately chose deserted locations on the outskirts falling between the limits of Avalahalli, Bagalur and Kothanur police stations. The illegal drug manufacturing unit was set up within a three-kilometre radius shared by the three jurisdictions, making routine monitoring difficult. By operating in a secluded zone with unclear jurisdictional control, the accused managed to manufacture drugs without fear of immediate detection. Police are now examining lapses in coordination to prevent similar rackets.

Traffic Curbs Announced on MG Road for NY Celebrations

Police impose vehicle restrictions, diversions to ensure safety and smooth movement

Continued from page 1

With thousands of revellers expected to gather in the Central Business District to usher in the New Year, Bengaluru Traffic Police have issued detailed traffic guidelines and restrictions for MG Road and surrounding areas. The measures will be in force from the night of December 31 till the early hours of January 1 in the interest of public safety and smooth vehicular movement.

As in previous years, large crowds of motorists and pedestrians are expected on MG Road, Brigade Road, Residency Road, St. Mark's Road and Church Street. To manage the surge and prevent congestion, the police have announced traffic restrictions from 8 pm on December 31 to 2 am on January 1.

During this period, entry of all vehicles—except police and emergency service vehicles on duty—will be prohibited on key stretches. These include MG Road from Anil Kumble Circle to Residency Road Junction near Mayo Hall; Brigade Road from Cauvery Emporium Junction to Opera Junction; Church Street from Brigade Road Junction to Museum Road Junction; and Residency Road from

Aashirvadam Junction to Mayo Hall Junction. Restrictions will also apply on Museum Road from MG Road Junction to Old Madras Bank Road (SBI) roundabout, Rest House Road from Museum Road Junction to Brigade Road Junction, and Residency Cross Road from Residency Road Junction to MG Road Junction towards Shankar Nag Cinema.

In addition, parking of all vehicles, except those of police and emergency services, will be strictly prohibited on MG Road, Brigade Road, Church Street, Rest House Road, Museum Road and Residency Road. Violators will face strict action, police warned.

To facilitate smooth traffic flow, alternative routes have been suggested. After 8 pm, vehicles heading towards Ulsoor and beyond from Queen's Circle on MG Road should take a left at Anil Kumble Circle, proceed via Central Street and BRV Junction, turn right onto Cubbon Road and rejoin MG Road near Webb's Junction. Vehicles travelling towards Cantonment from Ulsoor should take a right turn at Trinity Circle and continue via Halasuru Road and Dickenson Road to Cubbon Road.

Parking will be permitted on Kamaraj Road between Cubbon Road Junction and Commercial Street Junction. Vehicles coming from Ejipura have been advised to turn right near India Garage, turn left at the ASC Centre and proceed towards Trinity. Police have urged the public to cooperate, plan their travel in advance and strictly follow the guidelines, cautioning that any violation will be dealt with seriously.

Drug Seizure Sparks Row, JDS Demands HM's Resignation

Continued from page 1

The Janata Dal (Secular) on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Congress-led Karnataka government following the seizure of drugs worth crores of rupees in Bengaluru by the Maharashtra Police, demanding the immediate resignation of Home Minister G. Parameshwara.

Reacting to the development on social media platform X, the JDS alleged that the continued exposure of drug rackets by police forces from outside the State had exposed serious lapses in Karnataka's intelligence and policing systems. The party accused the Congress government of weakening the law-and-order machinery and allowing the city to turn into a hub for narcotics manufacturing and trafficking.

"The dignity of the Karnataka Police has been undermined under Congress misrule. The incompetent Home Minister should take moral responsibility and resign," the JDS said, adding that the State's intelligence apparatus had failed to detect and dismantle drug networks operating openly in and around Bengaluru.

The criticism follows recent raids by Maharashtra's Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF), which reportedly unearthed three drug manufacturing units in the city and seized narcotics worth around ₹55–56 crore. JDS leaders claimed that Bengaluru, once known as a peaceful and cosmopolitan city, had now become a "drug den" due to administrative failure.

The party also recalled an earlier incident in July, when the Mumbai Police raided an illegal drug factory in Mysuru district—Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's home district—and seized 192 kg of mephedrone valued at nearly ₹390 crore. According to the JDS, repeated interventions by Maharashtra Police highlight the erosion of Karnataka's internal surveillance and enforcement capabilities.

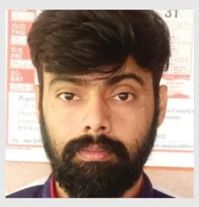
In a separate statement, JDS youth wing president Nikhil Kumaraswamy vowed to intensify the party's agitation against the government. He alleged that the Congress administration was indirectly supporting drug traffickers and warned of a sustained political fight to expose what he described as official apathy.

The JDS maintained that despite repeated intelligence inputs and seizures, the drug menace continues unabated in Bengaluru, raising serious concerns over public safety and governance.

Man Arrested for Cheating Woman of ₹75 L, Raping Sister

BENGALURU

A 27-year-old textile businessman, Subham Shukla, a resident of Bagalagunte, has been arrested for allegedly duping a woman of gold and cash worth over ₹75 lakh and sexually assaulting her minor sister. The Bagalagunte police have registered two separate cases against him — one under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) for theft in a dwelling (Section 305) and cheating (Section 318), and another under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for the rape of a 16-year-old girl.



A senior police officer said the complaint was lodged by the victims' father. Following his arrest, Shukla has been remanded in judicial custody, and further investigations are underway. Police said the accused runs a textile store in the city and was well known to the family. Both families hail from Rajasthan and have been residing in Bengaluru for several years.

According to the complaint, Shukla initially befriended the younger sister and later trapped the 21-year-old woman in a relationship by promising to marry her. The two reportedly lived together in an apartment in Bagalagunte for nearly 18 months. During this period, Shukla allegedly coerced the woman into parting with large sums of money and repeatedly stole valuables from her house, including around 550 grams of gold ornaments and cash amounting to ₹75 lakh.

The victim's father further alleged that when his daughter discovered Shukla was already married and had sexually abused her minor sister, the accused confined her in a dark room for nearly four months. Police said Shukla allegedly gained the family's trust by posing as a close friend and was also reportedly involved with other women. He is accused of cheating the complainant's younger daughter of ₹1.5 lakh by misusing her credit card.

After allegedly draining the woman financially, Shukla is said to have harassed her and eventually driven her out of the house following a dispute. The woman later took shelter at her grandmother's residence and returned home on November 1. When the family attempted to contact Shukla for an explanation, he was reportedly unreachable.

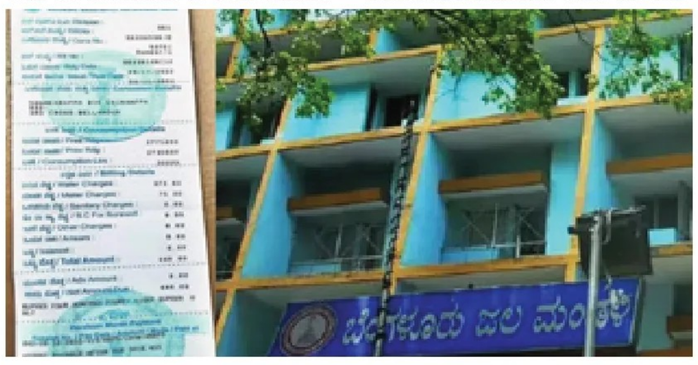
With the help of an acquaintance, the woman traced Shukla's location through mobile data near Sankey Tank in Sadashivanagar. Subsequently, the father filed a complaint at the Sadashivanagar police station, which was transferred to Bagalagunte police on December 13. Police said Shukla has confessed to taking about 200 grams of gold and a few lakh rupees in cash. "We are verifying online transactions and cash payments to ascertain the exact amount involved," a senior police officer said.

BWSSB announces full interest waiver under one-time settlement

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has announced a major relief for consumers with long-pending water bill dues by offering a 100% waiver on interest and penalty amounts under a One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme. The benefit will be available to consumers who clear the principal amount of their outstanding bills in one payment.

The scheme has received approval from the State government, with the Urban Development Department issuing an official order following directions from Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar. BWSSB Chairman Dr. Ram Prasath Manohar said the initiative has been introduced with a customer-friendly objective to help consumers settle old dues without additional financial burden.



The OTS scheme will be open for a period of three months — January, February and March — giving ample time for consumers to take advantage of the waiver. Officials expect the move to significantly reduce pending arrears while improving revenue collection for the Board.

To ensure transparency and prevent involvement of middlemen, BWSSB has enabled direct registration through its official website. Consumers can apply and make payments online without visiting BWSSB offices. The Board is also developing a dedicated mobile application for easier access.

Officials inspect Kogilu Layout demolition site

BENGALURU

A 20-member team of officials from the Rajiv Gandhi Housing Scheme visited Kogilu Layout on Monday to inspect the site where sheds were recently demolished. The officials are verifying whether around 180 people were residing in the area at the time of the demolition. The team is collecting detailed information from the affected families to assess eligibility for alternative housing. Officials are preparing a comprehensive list of those who lost their homes by gathering Aadhaar cards, voter identity cards and GPS-tagged photographs as part of the verification process.

NY celebrations: City Police issue guidelines

BENGALURU

The City Police Department on Monday issued detailed guidelines for New Year celebrations, placing special emphasis on the safety of women and young adults as Bengaluru prepares to welcome the New Year.

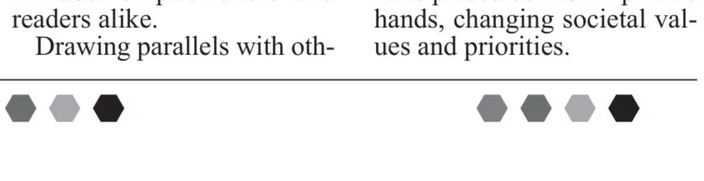
Addressing a press conference, City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh said comprehensive security arrangements had already been put in place across the city. He noted that Central Business District (CBD) areas such as MG Road, Brigade Road, Koramangala, Indiranagar, Electronic City and major mall zones were likely to witness heavy crowds on New Year's Eve and would therefore be under heightened surveillance.

The Commissioner stressed that public peace and order must be maintained at all costs. He warned that strict legal action would be initiated against anyone attempting to disturb law and order. Hotels, pubs, clubs and resorts will be permitted to function only within prescribed time limits on New Year's Day and loudspeaker use have been allowed subject to restrictions.

'Cabinet to discuss job reservation for Kannadigas'

BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said the State government would hold detailed discussions in the Cabinet on the long-pending demand for reservation in jobs for Kannadigas and take an appropriate decision at the earliest. He asserted that the government would not compromise on issues related to Kannada land, water and language.



Addressing a public function organised by a consortium of various people's organisations at the Palace Grounds, the Chief Minister said he was always prepared to raise his voice in favour of Kannada and the interests of Kannadigas. He also expressed displeasure over the delay in the Mahadayi drinking water project, attributing it to the lack of environmental clearances.

Magadi MLA's wife accused of grabbing ₹54 cr govt land

BENGALURU

Serious allegations have emerged over the alleged encroachment of government land worth about ₹54 crore in Kurubarahalli village of Tavarekere hobli in Bengaluru South taluk. BJP leader N.R. Ramesh has accused Radha Balakrishna, wife of Congress Magadi MLA H.C. Balakrishna, of illegally grabbing public property spread across Survey Nos. 233, 234, 235 and 236.

In a press release, Mr. Ramesh urged the authorities to conduct a thorough investigation and take immediate action. He also demanded the rejection of any petition seeking conversion of the allegedly encroached government land.

According to Mr. Ramesh, Radha Balakrishna obtained sale deeds from the families of Narasimhaiah, Gangubai, Nagamma and Neelamma at the Kengeri sub-registrar's office, despite the land being classified as government property. He claimed that the parcels in question are designated as government grazing lands.

REBUILDING BOOK CULTURE

Book Culture Rooted in Sensitivity: Baraguru Ramachandrappa

BENGALURU

Thinker and cultural critic Baraguru Ramachandrappa on Sunday said that true book culture is deeply rooted in sensitivity, while the publishing industry demands rigorous editing, and only a rare few are able to successfully combine both. He noted that this rare balance is exemplified by Prakash Kambatthalli and his wife of Ankitha Prakashan.

He was speaking at the release ceremony of Dakshinayana, the 1,000th work of senior journalist and writer Jogi, held at Wadia Hall to mark the 30th anniversary of the book's publication. Reflecting on the evolving challenges faced by the publishing world, Ramachandrappa said the central question today is how to strike a balance between entrepreneurship and cultural sensitivity.

"If there is no profit in publishing and selling books, the industry cannot survive. Books too have become an industry. But if publishing is reduced only to profit-making, the taste for books will deteriorate and there will be no space for changing literary sensibilities," he warned. He added that an excessive focus on profit inevitably alters the mindset of publishers and readers alike.

Drawing parallels with other media, Ramachandrappa observed that films, newspapers and books have all turned into industries. "When all forms of media have become industries, the challenge before us is how to rebuild and sustain book culture," he said. He also explained the difference between industrialisation and globalisation, noting that while industries were once regulated under a mixed economy, free trade policies have placed control in private hands, changing societal values and priorities.

QUICK READ

Sports Scholarship: Applications Invited

Vijayapura

The Sports Scholarship is now open for applications from children of serving and retired armed forces personnel who have participated in national and international level sports competitions held between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2025. Interested candidates can submit the required documents to the office of the Deputy Director, Soldier Welfare and Rehabilitation Department. For more details, applicants may contact the office at 08352-250913, as informed in an official notification by the Deputy Director of Soldier Welfare and Rehabilitation Department.

Lizard Found in Midday Meal at Surpur School

Yadgir

A Lizard was discovered in the midday meal served at the Government Lower Primary School in Waddar Oorni, Surpur town, causing panic among the students. The incident occurred while the children were eating their lunch. On learning about it, parents rushed to the school and expressed their anger towards the teachers and cooking staff. The school has a total of 42 students. As a precautionary measure, all the children were immediately taken to Hasnapur Primary Health Centre for initial check-up. Later, they were admitted to Surpur Taluk Hospital for further examination and treatment. Speaking to the media, Taluk Health Officer Dr. R.V. Nayak said that only one child experienced vomiting, while the rest showed no symptoms. He confirmed that the health condition of all the children is currently stable. Preliminary investigations suggest that negligence by the cooking staff during food preparation may have contributed to the incident. However, the exact cause is still under investigation. The authorities are taking strict measures to ensure the safety and hygiene of school meals to prevent such incidents in the future.

Viraloka Book Fair to Be Held in Bidar from January 24 to 26

Gurubasava Pattadevaru urged support to organize an impressive Bidar book fair

BIDAR

The Viraloka Book Fair will be held in Bidar city on January 24, 25, and 26 with the aim of preserving and promoting book culture.

Speaking at a preparatory meeting, Gurubasava Pattadevaru, head of the Hiremath of Bhalki, urged people to actively participate in the fair. The event is being organized with the support of the District Kannada Sahitya Parishat, under the guidance of the Hiremath.

He spoke at the meeting held at Dr. Channabasava Pattadevaru Prasada Nilaya in Vidyanagar, Bidar. Gurubasava Pattadevaru said he had visited the Bengaluru Book Fair and was impressed by its organization and success. He expressed a strong desire to organize a book fair in Bidar that would be even better and called upon devotees of the math, Kannada lovers, and the public to support the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Gurunath Rajageer, one of the organizers of the Bidar book fair, invited publishers from Bidar and the Kalyana Karnataka region to participate in large numbers by displaying and selling their books. He also announced that writers from the region who wish to release their books will be provided with a platform and guests at the Viraloka Book Fair.

He added that the three-day fair will feature not only book exhibitions and sales but also various seminars, discussions, and cultural programs every evening, including Vachana singing, light music, folk songs, and ghazals. More than 30 stage programs are planned.

District Kannada Sahitya Parishat President Suresh Channashetty said over 100 writers from across Karnataka, including Bengaluru, will participate in reader–writer interactions.

He expressed hope that nearly one lakh people would attend the fair and urged local organizations, Kannada groups, and educational institutions to cooperate.

Senior writer and researcher Dr. Santosh Hanagal highlighted the impact of the Bengaluru Book Fair and said a similar cultural movement should begin in Bidar with the leadership of the Bhalki Hiremath.

Several writers, publishers, cultural figures, and community leaders attended the meeting and shared suggestions to ensure the success of the Viraloka Book Fair.

Massive Protest Demanding ST Status for Koli and Kabbaliga

KALABURAGI

Protestors demanded ST status since 1996, urging the state government and Minister Kharge to act responsibly

Thousands from the Koli, Kabbaliga, Ambiga, Bestha, and Barik communities held a large-scale protest on Monday, demanding their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) list.

The demonstration began at Jagat Circle, where participants first garlanded the statues of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Basavanna. The protest march was formally flagged off by Shantabhishma Choudaiya Swamiji of Haveri, under the guidance of community leaders, and proceeded to the Deputy Commissioner's office.

Speakers at the event emphasized that these communities have been seeking ST status since 1996. Although proposals to include the Gangamatha community and its sub-castes have repeatedly been sent to the central government, they have consistently been returned. Protestors urged the state government to submit the proposal again with complete documentation.

Koli community leader Shivakumar Natikar clarified that the protest was not directed against any government or political party but was a legitimate demand for their rights. He emphasized that the participants were self-respecting citizens, not paid agitators.

The protestors also criticized the state government, stating that even after being in power for two years, the Congress government, which claims to support backward communities, has not forwarded their proposal to the central authorities. They specifically called on district incharge minister Priyank Kharge, a senior cabinet minister, to take responsibility and ensure their demand is met.

The protest drew participation from several religious leaders, elected representatives, and community heads. Thousands of people from villages and towns across Kalaburagi and Yadgiri districts, including Afzalpur, Aland, Jewargi, Chittapur, Chincholi, and Kalagi taluks, joined the demonstration.

The protest highlighted the long-standing demand for ST status, showing the strong unity and determination of these communities in seeking recognition and justice from both the state and central governments.

Fire Accident at Krishna Palace: Heavy Loss

VIJAYAPURA

A major fire broke out late Sunday night at Udupi Krishna Palace, located on Solapur Road in Vijayapura city. The incident caused damage to property worth several lakhs of rupees. The fire suddenly started in the three-storey hotel. As the flames spread quickly, fire and emergency services rushed to the spot. Firefighters worked continuously for three to four hours to bring the fire completely under control. No loss of life was reported in the incident. Preliminary investigations suggest that the fire may have been caused by a gas leak or an electrical short circuit. A case has been registered at the Adarsh Nagar Police Station, and further investigation is underway.

Focus on Holistic Development of Children: Shaini Gunti

BIDAR

Parents must prioritize the all-round development of their children, said Shaini Pradeep Gunti, State Project Coordinator of Akk Payee, during the inauguration of the annual day celebrations at Naveen Public School on Chitta Road, Bidar. She stressed that parents should motivate their children to achieve their goals, build self-confidence, and equip them to face the challenges of today's competitive world.

Dr. Neeta Shailendra Beldale added that alongside academic education, children should also be nurtured with strong moral values. These values are essential in shaping them into responsible, ethical, and well-rounded individuals.

School President Kamashetti Chikkabase highlighted that Naveen Public School provides students with a cultural and competitive learning environment. This approach has helped students excel in various examinations and develop a balanced personality.

Other dignitaries present at the event included Rajendra Kumar Gandage, former president of the District Unit of the State Government Employees Association; school secretary Sheela Chikkabase; Arunkumar Hotapet, President of the JDS city unit; Principal Rajamati Vante and Vice-Principal Basavaraj Tagare of Naveen Pre-University College; and Principal Rajappa Biradar of Naveen Public School.

The annual day celebrations also featured a variety of cultural programs performed by the students, including music, dance, and drama. These performances entertained the audience and demonstrated the school's commitment to fostering creativity, teamwork, and confidence among its students.

The event highlighted the school's focus on the holistic development of children, combining academics, cultural activities, and moral education to prepare them for a successful and balanced future.

Kuvempu Spread the Message of Universal Humanity – VEERAYYA SALIMATH

VIJAYAPURA

National poet Kuvempu conveyed the message of Vishva Manava (Universal Humanism) to the world through his writings, said Veerayya Salimath, Deputy Director of the School Education Department.

He was speaking at the World Humanism Day program held on Kuvempu's birth anniversary at the Deputy Commissioner's office hall. The event was organized jointly by the district administration, district panchayat, and the Department of Kannada and Culture.

Salimath said Kuvempu brought great honor to Karnataka by becoming the state's first Jnanpith Award winner and by receiving the Central Sahitya Akademi Award. Kuvempu lived and wrote with deep love for Kannada, concern for nature, and strong belief in universal human values. He believed that the progress of a land depends on the progress of its people and shared this idea of harmony through his works.

He explained that humans are born as universal beings, but divisions and restrictions make them narrow-minded. By practicing universal human values in daily life, people can spread true humanism and develop a broader outlook.

Kuvempu's literature reflects Kannada pride, environmental awareness, equality, and the influence of Basavanna's philosophy. Salimath urged young people to understand the deeper meaning and values in Kuvempu's writings.

Guest speaker Jambunath Kanchyani described Kuvempu as a great genius and a Rasa Rishi. He said Kuvempu's ideas on social change remain relevant today. His epic Sri Ramayana Darshanam carries spiritual and meaningful thoughts needed even now.

Kuvempu served as a professor, principal, and later Vice-Chancellor of Mysore University, shaping it into a model institution. His contribution to Kannada literature is immense, and his thoughts continue to guide humanity like a guiding light.

New Year Special Train Between Mumbai and Hyderabad

KALABURAGI

On the occasion of the New Year, Central Railway has introduced a special train service between Mumbai and Hyderabad for the convenience of passengers. The train runs via Kalaburagi and Wadi.

The Hyderabad–LTT Mumbai Special Train (07458) departed from Hyderabad on December 28 in the evening. It travels through Begumpet, Lingampalli, Vikarabad, Tandur, Wadi, Kalaburagi, Solapur, Pune, and Kalyan, and reaches Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (Mumbai) at 10:40 am the next day.

Similarly, the LTT Mumbai–Hyderabad Special Train (07459) left LTT Mumbai on December 29 at 3:20 pm and arrives in Hyderabad at 9:00 am the following day.

The Public Relations Officer of the Solapur Railway Division shared this information in an official press release, stating that the special trains have been arranged to manage the increased passenger rush during the New Year period.

This special service is expected to benefit travelers commuting between Maharashtra, Telangana, and Karnataka during the festive season.

Agricultural Fair from Jan 4 to 6

VIJAYAPURA

An agricultural fair will be held from January 4 to 6 at the Agriculture College campus in Vijayapura, jointly organised by the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Dharwad–Vijayapura, and various agriculture-related government departments. The fair will be inaugurated on January 4 at 11 am by Agriculture Minister and UAS Dharwad Co-Vice Chancellor N. Chaluvarayaswamy. Vijayapura District In-charge Minister and Minister for Large and Medium Industries and Basic Infrastructure Development Dr. M.B. Patil will inaugurate the agricultural products exhibition, while Sericulture, Sugarcane Development and Agricultural Markets Minister Shivanand S. Patil will release agriculture publications.

MLA Vitthal Katkadhond will preside over the inaugural programme. Other guests include Ravikumar N., Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council; Prakash B. Hukkeri, Karnataka government's special representative in New Delhi; Appaji C.S. Nadagouda; MPs Ramesh Jigajinni and Sudha Murthy; and local MLAs. Senior officials and university representatives will attend.

Scientific Conference: Superstition Holds Us Back, Says Minister Darshanapur

YADGIRI

Small Industries and Public Enterprises Minister Sharanabasappa Darshanapur said that while the world is moving forward with science and technology, superstitions are holding our society back.

He was speaking after inaugurating the 5th State-level Scientific Conference organized by the Karnataka State Council for Science and Research at the district sports ground on Monday. He said people still spend heavily on rituals and temple activities but neglect education. Many blindly follow what others say and even take loans to spend lakhs of rupees on religious practices, while failing to educate their children. He stressed that society must move in the same direction as the world to achieve success.

The minister said some forces misuse people's beliefs for their own benefit and make the poor spend unnecessarily. He stated that no god harms humans; instead, humans harm each other. Science and technology have the power to overcome such negative influences and help society progress.

He expressed hope that the conference would increase scientific awareness among youth and assured government support and funding for such programs in the future.

Scientist Dr. A.S. Kiran Kumar, chief patron of the council, said scientific knowledge must reach all children in the state. He added that for India to reach the top globally, growth in science is essential. He urged the state government to allocate ₹5 crore in the budget for scientific awareness programs.

Council founder president Hulikal Nataraj also requested government funding for the conference.

Several religious leaders, ministers, MLAs, scientists, officials, and community leaders attended the event.

SPORTS BUILD DISCIPLINE

Annual Sports Meet Held at Channabasaveshwara Public School

BHALKI

Sports play a vital role in fostering discipline and overall development among students, said Nadoja Dr. Basavalinga Pattadevaru, President of the Basavakalyana Anubhava Mantapa. He spoke while presiding over the annual sports meet organized by the Hiremath Institution Vidyapeetha Trust at Channabasaveshwara Gurukul Public School on Monday.

Dr. Pattadevaru highlighted that participation in sports significantly enhances students' physical and mental growth. Sports cultivate courage, determination, focus, and a competitive spirit, while also promoting unity, teamwork, and brotherhood. He advised students to handle both success and failure gracefully and to strive for excellence in all areas of life.

> **"The annual sports meet is not just about competition, but a strong platform for the overall development of students."**
> —Nadoja Dr. Basavalinga Pattadevaru, Hiremath Institution, Bhalki

Bengaluru-based advocate Santosh Nagarale also addressed the gathering, emphasizing that sports are essential for maintaining physical fitness, boosting mental resilience, and building self-confidence among students.

The event was conducted under the guidance of Mahaalinga Swamiji, Secretary of the Hiremath Institution. Several dignitaries and school officials were present, including Administrator Mohan Reddy, Principal Basavaraj Molakire, and Public School Principals N. Raju and Rangareddy. Teachers Jayakka Gaonkar, Jayalakshmi, Veerashetty, Roopadevi Anandure, and others were also in attendance.

The annual sports meet served as a platform for students to showcase their athletic abilities and develop important life skills such as discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Through active participation, students gained not only the joy of competition but also the lessons of perseverance, cooperation, and leadership—qualities that are invaluable for their personal and academic growth.

QUICK READ

ASI dies of heart attack after returning from work

Chamarajanagar

A tragic incident was reported from Chamarajanagar where an Assistant Sub-Inspector lost his life after suffering a sudden heart attack. Naganayak, an ASI attached to the Santhemarahalli Police Station, had just returned home early in the morning after completing his night duty. Shortly after reaching his residence at the Police Quarters, he unexpectedly collapsed. Family members and colleagues rushed him to the hospital, but he passed away before receiving medical treatment. His sudden death has deeply shocked the police department and local community. Authorities and fellow officers expressed grief over the untimely demise of the dedicated officer, who was known for his disciplined service and commitment to duty.

Kudroli Jamia Masjid holds annual general meeting

Mangaluru

The fifth annual general meeting of Kudroli Jamia Masjid was held on Sunday, December 28, at the mosque's lower-level auditorium in Mangaluru. Following the meeting, a new committee was elected for the next three years. Former MLC and former Chief Whip of the Karnataka Government, Al Hajj K.S. Mohammed Masood, was unanimously re-elected as President for the fifth consecutive term. Haji Maqbool Ahmed was elected Vice President, while Haji S.A. Khalil will serve as Secretary, with Asif Sarfuddin as Joint Secretary. Sheikh Tajmul Hussain has been appointed Treasurer. Committee members Dr. Mohammed Arif Masood, S. Saleem, Abdul Khaliq S., Ashfaq Ahmed, Zahid M.S., and Akthar Hussain were also elected.

KARWAR WILL GET A SUPER-SPECIALTY HOSPITAL: DCM

Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar assured Karwar residents that setting up a super-specialty hospital will be the government's top priority

KARWAR

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced that establishing a super-specialty hospital in Karwar is one of the government's foremost commitments, fulfilling a long-pending demand of the people of the region. Speaking at the Karavali Utsav held on Sunday night at the Rabindranath Tagore Beach in Karwar, he assured residents that the government stands firmly with them in improving healthcare facilities.

He said MLA Satish Sail had strongly emphasized that people from Karwar should not be forced to travel to Goa, Udupi, or Mangaluru for advanced medical treatment, and highlighted the urgent need for a world-class hospital locally. Responding to this, Shivakumar affirmed that the government will ensure this promise is met.

Expressing gratitude to the people of Uttara Kannada district, he noted that the support of five MLAs from the district has strengthened the government, enabling it to implement five guarantee schemes successfully. He also announced plans for a dedicated tourism policy for the region to boost employment, prevent

youth migration, and create jobs at people's doorsteps. A public meeting is scheduled to be held in Mangaluru on January 10 in this regard.

Praising the natural beauty and cultural richness of the coastal belt, Shivakumar described the Western Ghats, beaches, traditions, language, and heritage as the pride of the region. He also appreciated MLA Satish Sail for reviving the Karavali Utsav after seven years and providing opportunities for local artists and talents. Emphasizing action over criticism, he said critics may speak, but meaningful work leaves a lasting impact. He urged people to continue strengthening the government in the future by electing more representatives from the region.

Farmers protest demanding higher price for tur dal

KANAKAGIRI

Farmers in Kanakagiri protested demanding higher tur support price, incentives, irrigation relief and loan waivers, submitting a memorandum to Chief Minister

Farmers' organizations staged a strong protest in Kanakagiri demanding an increase in the support price for tur (pigeon pea). Members of the Karnataka Farmers' Association and various units of the Hasiru Sene gathered at the Valmiki Circle on Monday and symbolically poured heaps of tur dal on the road to express their anger and frustration. Later, a memorandum addressed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was submitted through Tahsildar Vishwanath Murudi.

Speaking at the protest, Kalyana Karnataka regional president of the farmers' association, Pampanna Naik, condemned the state government for purchasing tur at the Central Government's fixed support price of ₹8,000 per quintal. While he welcomed the opening of procurement centers in the district, he insisted that merely adhering to the Central price was unacceptable. He urged the state government to offer at least ₹8,500 per quintal to provide fair compensation to farmers.

Farmer leader Sharanappa Doddamani alleged that both the Central and State governments were neglecting farmers' interests. He raised concerns over the delay in installing crest gates at the Tungabhadra Dam and questioned what meaningful guarantees the government had provided to farmers. He demanded an additional incentive of ₹4,000 per quintal for tur procurement.

Protestors also pressed for permanent government buildings for agriculture department offices currently operating from rented premises. They demanded loan waivers and assured irrigation for second-crop cultivation, warning that lack of water had increased farmer suicides and forced many to migrate for livelihood. Several farmers, including Ganesh Reddy, Suresh, Virupanna Kambali, Basavaraj, Somanna, Manjunath Godinal, Malingarayya, Hanumesha Huggi, Yankappa, Kanakappa Naik, and Hanumanth, participated in the agitation.

HDD offers pooja at Huttur Deveshwara Temple

HASSAN

Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda performed a special pooja at the Deveshwara temple in Haradanahalli village, Huttur, in Holenarasipura taluk, Hassan district. Arriving in the village by helicopter, he visited the temple and participated in homa and havan rituals. He was accompanied by his son H.D. Revanna, Bhavani Revanna, and MLA H.P. Swaroopprakash during the ceremony.

The visit coincided with a JDS workers' gathering in Hassan, organized ahead of the district and taluk panchayat elections. Before attending the political event, Deve Gowda sought the blessings of Lord Deveshwara, marking his second visit to the temple within a year. During the pooja, he offered prayers for the well-being of the village and the state, highlighting the spiritual significance of the temple in his life. The event attracted local residents and JDS supporters, who welcomed the former Prime Minister and his family.

Madivalara Welfare Association felicitates achievers

BHATKAL

The Bhatkal Taluk Madivalara Welfare Association held its monthly meeting along with a felicitation ceremony for achievers at the Hadimasti Temple Hall in Shirali. Association President Ramesh Madival presided over the programme.

During the event, several talented youths were honoured for their outstanding accomplishments. Kumari Sinchana Thimmappa Madival, who secured the 6th rank in the B.Sc. examinations conducted by Karnataka University, Dharwad for the year 2025, was felicitated. Pavitra Raghuram Madival, who was selected to the Karnataka University Kabaddi team and earned the prestigious University Blue recognition, was also honoured. In addition, Nagraj Ganesh Shirali re-

ceived recognition for securing the fourth place at the state level in a painting competition conducted by the Karnataka Examination Authority.

Educational leaders and association mentors, including K.B. Madival, Headmaster of Alvekodi Durgaparameshwari High School, and Mamatha Bhatkal, Headmistress of Srivali High School, Chitrapur, addressed the gathering and praised the achievements of the students.

The programme was attended by Association Honorary President Venkatesh Madival Shirali, Secretary Nityananda Teerthahalli, Treasurer Rajesh Madival, other office bearers, and community members. Financial advisor Krishnananda Madival welcomed the gathering, while teacher Raghavendra Madival compered the event, making it a meaningful and inspiring occasion for the community.

Youth Cong protests against rail fare hike

SHIVAMOGGA

Youth Congress workers staged a protest at the railway station against repeated increases in train fares, highlighting the financial burden on ordinary citizens. HC Yogesh and other leaders condemned the central BJP government for implementing frequent fare hikes, calling it an attack on people's daily lives. They stressed that railways are the lifeline of millions of Indians, and despite its massive operations, the government continues to raise fares unnecessarily.

Javali Nigam President Chetan Gowda criticized the second fare hike within a year, terming it highly objectionable. The protesters highlighted that while the government claims to offer benefits to citizens, it simultaneously raises prices of essential commodities. Diesel and petrol prices have risen from ₹60 to ₹90-105 per liter, LPG cylinders from ₹450 to nearly ₹1,000, and daily-use electronics and fertilizers have become more expensive, further straining public finances. Rising medicine costs also impact people's health.

Leaders demanded the immediate rollback of rail fare increases and urged the government to ensure rail travel remains accessible, as it has historically been the lifeline of ordinary citizens. They called for strict control over essential commodity prices and warned that failure to act would trigger stronger demonstrations by the Youth Congress against the central government.

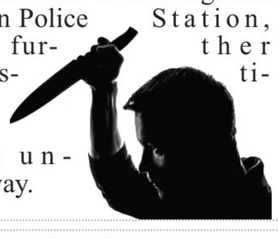
The protest saw participation from hundreds of Youth Congress members, including Vijay Kumar, Ramesh Hegde, Dheeraj Honnavile, Yamuna Rangegowda, Girish, Madhusudan, Ramu, District President Harshit Gowda, City President Charan J Shetty, Rural President Praveen, Block Presidents Girish, Saklin, Praveen, Shashikumar, and general secretaries Abdul Sattar, Malavagoppa Shivu, Reshma, Nikhil, Taupik, Babu, Gautam, Anup, Vishnu, Yogesh Bovi, Ravi, Ashok, Lingaraju, and Adarsh. The demonstrators expressed their anger over the government's continuous price hikes and urged immediate corrective measures.

Youth injured in knife attack after drunken brawl

CHIKKAMAGALURU

A drunken brawl inside a bar led to a violent incident in Shaktinagar on the outskirts of Chikkamagaluru, where a youth was stabbed. The injured youth, Anil Kumar from Mooguthihalli village, has been admitted to the Hassan Government Hospital for treatment.

The clash reportedly began as a minor argument between two groups over a cigarette, which soon escalated into a fight. During the scuffle, one of the youths suddenly attacked Anil Kumar with a knife. Police have taken the accused into custody. CCTV footage from the bar has captured the quarrel and stabbing incident. A case has been registered at the Chikkamagaluru Town Police Station, and further investigation is underway.



Honouring Kannada poet G.S. Shivrudrappa

SHIVAMOGGA

Dr. G.S. Shivrudrappa, widely acclaimed as a master poet who elevated the beauty of Kannada literature to a divine level, was remembered at a commemorative event titled "GSS: A Remembrance" organized at the Patrika Bhavan under the aegis of Rasthrakavi Dr. G.S. Shivrudrappa Foundation and Karnataka Working Journalists' Association, District Unit. Speaking at the event, poet and journalist N. Ravikumar (Telex) highlighted that G.S.S. critically explored the aesthetic essence of Kannada poetry from folk traditions to the Pampa and Navodaya eras, blending literary beauty with spiritual depth. His research work "Soundarya Sameekshe", developed under the guidance of his mentor Kuvempu, remains an invaluable contribution to Kannada literary criticism.

Ravikumar emphasized that G.S.S. transcended caste, religion, and social divisions in his writings, weaving universal humanism into his poetry. Through works on Sankranti, Muharram, and Christ, he propagated a message of inclusivity and interfaith harmony. His poems, rooted in the richness of life, revealed philosophical insights from devotional hymns to spiritual prayers.

Dr. Basavaraj T.N., lecturer at Kamala Nehru Women's First Grade College, said in an era where humanity is increasingly neglected, G.S.S. stands as a beacon, nurturing global human consciousness akin to Kuvempu. Dr. Rajendra of Shiralkoppa Kadam First Grade College added that G.S.S.'s vision and literary contributions continue to inspire moral and social values in society.

Prof. Kiran Desai, president of the G.S. Shivrudrappa Foundation, chaired the programme, and K.S. Ishwarappa delivered the introductory remarks. Speakers noted that poetry, as a powerful medium, can rebuild humane society and promote love and equality .

Ramanagara celebrates Kuvempu's literary legacy

RAMANAGARA

A programme marking the birth anniversary of renowned Kannada writer Kuvempu was organised in Ramanagara at Patel English School near Kempegowda Circle on Magadi Road, jointly by the District Negilayogi Social Service Trust and the school. Paying floral tributes to Kuvempu's portrait, the school's founder-secretary Patel C. Raju said Kuvempu remains a towering symbol of Kannada language and literature. Born on December 29, 1904, at Kuppalli near Thirthahalli in Shivamogga district, Kuvempu (Kuppalli Venkatappa Puttappa) emerged as one of India's greatest literary figures, writing poetry, plays, novels and children's literature that enriched Kannada culture.

He recalled that classic poetry collections such as Kolalu Panchajanya, Prema Kashmira, and Pakshikashi, along with plays like Jalagara, Yamana Solu and Beralge Koral, showcased his creative brilliance. Notable children's poems like Bommanahalliya Kindari Jogi and Modannana Thamma are still cherished, while novels including Malegalalli Madumagalu and Kanooru Heggaditi hold a special place in Kannada literature. Kuvempu's magnum opus Sri Ramayana Darshanam earned him the prestigious Jnanpith Award, bringing great pride to Karnataka. He was also honoured with the Pampa Award, Central Sahitya Akademi Award, Padma Vibhushan and many other recognitions.

Patel Raju said Kuvempu gave Kannada literature a unique global identity and stood among the foremost Jnanpith recipients in the state. Remembering his legacy, he stressed that Kannada speakers must preserve and promote the language.

CHILD RIGHTS AWARENESS

Awareness workshop on child rights and protection

MANGALURU

A lack of proper information is depriving many eligible children—especially children with disabilities—of their rightful benefits and protection, said Dr. Tippeswamy K.T., member of the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights. He was speaking after inaugurating an awareness workshop on child rights and child protection for rural and urban rehabilitation workers of Dakshina Kannada at the Netravati Hall of the Zilla Panchayat.

He noted that last year's review meetings revealed significant gaps among concerned departments regarding awareness of child rights. To address this, a statewide training programme has been launched, already completed in 20 districts, and will cover the remaining districts within the next ten months. The main objective is to ensure that constitutional entitlements reach every deserving child without delay.

Dakshina Kannada district has identified 954 children with disabilities, he said, stressing that officials working with children must understand their responsibilities in handling abuse cases and know whom to approach in emergencies. Child Protection

Committees, earlier limited to gram panchayats, are now mandated in all urban local bodies as well. Special gram sabhas for persons with disabilities must be held annually, he added, appreciating coastal districts for better implementation of child protection initiatives.

Presiding over the programme, senior civil judge and district legal services authority secretary Zaibunnisa emphasized that providing special protection to children with disabilities is the duty of all government systems. She said violations of child rights often occur even in schools, making awareness among teachers crucial. Children must be educated in stages about their rights, mutual protection, and legal remedies when rights are violated.

The programme was jointly organized by the State Child Rights Commission, district administration, legal services authority, disability and senior citizens' department, child helpline, and child protection unit, with officials and resource persons participating.

Permanent work key to recognition: MLA Manjunath

Kolar MLA Kotturu Manjunath pledges ₹21 lakh to journalists' welfare fund, emphasizes permanent work for lasting recognition

KOLAR

Emphasizing the value of lasting contributions, MLA Kotturu Manjunath pledged substantial support to the District Working Journalists' Association during a certificate distribution event for taluk-level office-bearers at the Patrika Bhavan, organized under the association's aegis. Manjunath announced he would personally contribute ₹21 lakh to the association's welfare fund, while adding ₹5 lakh each from the legislative member's and MLA's discretionary funds for the development of the association. He further assured Kolar taluk journalists of a five-acre site for residential quarters, promising to arrange it personally if the government could not provide it. "Journalists nurture public awareness and help society grow. True recognition comes only through permanent work, even if words may seem harsh at times," he said, highlighting the need for meaningful and enduring contributions.

Association President Shivananda Tagaduru praised Election Officer P. Sri Anantharamu for conducting transparent elections and stressed that elected representatives should avoid arrogance while losers must maintain dignity. Tagaduru also set a goal of achieving ₹1 crore for the welfare fund within three years, emphasizing that the association's primary focus must remain on journalist welfare rather than personal gains.

District Association President S.K. Chandrashekhar urged office-bearers to avoid ego and malpractices, stating, "Our writings define us; the association safeguards us. Co-operation and unity are vital to strengthen the organization and its activities." Former president B.V. Gopinath advised members to maintain solidarity, avoid politicizing elections, and act responsibly toward the journalists who placed their trust in them.

The event saw participation from senior journalists and office-bearers from Kolar, Bangarapete, Malur, Srinivaspur, KGF, Mulbagilu, and surrounding districts. The programme included welcomes by Madival Nanjundappa, narration by S. Narayanaswamy, and vote of thanks by B.S. Naveenkumar.

BJP State Prez Praises Kya. Brijesh Chowta's 'Back ToOoru'

MANGALURU

BJP state president B.Y. Vijayendra lauded Kya. Brijesh Chowta's 'Back to Ooru' concept, describing it as a unique and commendable initiative that motivates Mangaloreans settled abroad to return and contribute to their native place.

He was speaking at the ninth edition of the Mangalore Kambala, organised by Chowta at Goldfinch City, Bangrakurloor. Vijayendra said Kambala is not merely a rural folk sport but a symbol of Tulunadu's identity, and appreciated efforts to introduce it to urban audiences.

He said the Back to Ooru initiative recognises entrepreneurs from the coastal region who have returned home to establish businesses and create local employment. Ten entrepreneurs, including Anand Fernandes, Nitin Ratnakar, Bruno Marcel Prakash Pereira, Shriya Shetty and others, were honoured at the event, which aimed to promote culture, entrepreneurship and regional development.

66kV Godbanalu line to go live: Safety advisory issued

CHITRADURGA

The newly constructed 66/11 kV Godbanalu Power Distribution Station in Godbanalu village, Chitradurga taluk, will be connected via a 4.918 km 66 kV double-circuit line from the existing Hollekere-Pandrahalli 66 kV route. The transmission line will be commissioned on December 30.

The public is strictly warned not to touch or climb transmission towers, throw objects like tree branches or metal wires, or tie animals to the towers. Hazardous trees along the route have been removed, and landowners have been instructed to safely clear any remaining trees.

Failure to comply may cause accidents or damage, for which Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. will not be responsible.

The line will pass through Godbanalu and Banjagondanahalli village areas.

Residents are urged to exercise caution and maintain a safe distance from the transmission route, adhering to all safety regulations issued by the corporation.

SL journalists' delegation meets Assembly Speaker UT Khader

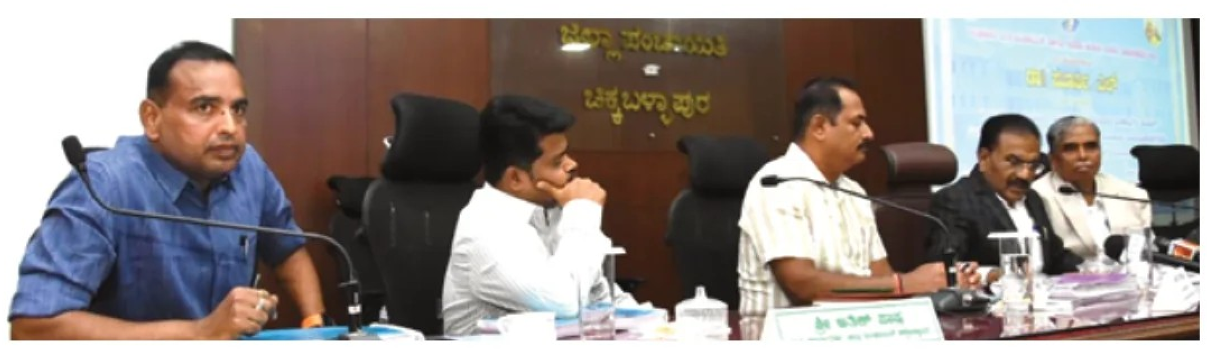
MANGALURU

A delegation of journalists from Sri Lanka visiting Mangaluru met Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker UT Khader to discuss various matters and extended an invitation for him to visit Sri Lanka.

Speaking on the occasion, Speaker UT Khader said India and Sri Lanka have shared a long-standing cordial relationship. He informed the delegation that he plans to visit Sri Lanka along with state legislators in the near future. He also invited the delegation to visit the Vidhana Soudha during their Karnataka tour.

The delegation included Pat M. Pastul, President of the Asian Media and Cultural Association; former media secretary to the Sri Lankan Prime Minister, Nishanth Alwis; senior journalists Sanjeev Tissera, Hemant Kumar Singhe, Damisiri Ajith, and Tushar Hettiarachchi. Also present was Srinivas Nayak Indaje, State Executive Committee member of the Karnataka Working Journalists' Association.

Review meeting held on issued faced by SC/ST community



CHIKKABALLAPUR

A review meeting on the issues faced by Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) communities was held at the district administration office under the chairmanship of the local SC/ST commission officials. Community representatives presented their grievances and requests for resolution, which were carefully noted by the commission.

The meeting focused on addressing longstanding challenges, ensuring that complaints are properly investigated, and corrective measures are implemented. Emphasis was placed on transparency and accountability, with the commission urging local authorities to take immediate action on pending issues, including land, housing, and welfare entitlements.

District officials also highlighted the importance of utilizing government schemes such as the SC/ST welfare funds effectively and ensuring equitable distribution of benefits. The review covered a total of 2,488 cases, with 78 cases resolved on the spot.

Key participants included Dr. H.S. Sharath, M. Kumbhaye, Deputy Commissioner N. Bhaskar, Sub-Divisional Officer D.H. Ashwan, along with SC/ST community leaders and departmental officials.

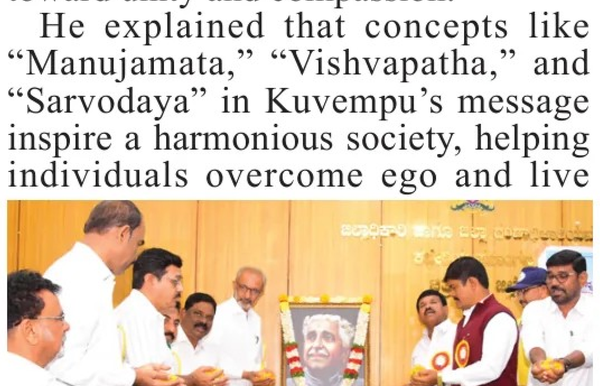
The commission instructed authorities to follow up on unresolved matters promptly, ensure compliance with regulations, and maintain records of all interventions. Representatives emphasized the need for continued monitoring and proactive engagement to protect the rights and welfare of SC/ST communities in the district. The meeting concluded with a commitment to systematic oversight and timely redressal of grievances, reinforcing the district administration's dedication to social justice and inclusive development.

'Kuvempu's 'Universal Human' message highlights harmony'

CHITRADURGA

The World Human Day celebration was held at the District Administration Hall in Chitradurga, organized by the district administration, Zilla Panchayat, Kannada and Culture Department, and City Municipality. Speaking on the occasion, English lecturer S.A.N. Dr. Hemantaraju from the Government Boys PU College said Kuvempu's "Universal Human" philosophy reflects the essence of all world religions and guides humanity toward unity and compassion.

He explained that concepts like "Manujamata," "Vishvapatha," and "Sarvodaya" in Kuvempu's message inspire a harmonious society, helping individuals overcome ego and live meaningful lives. He emphasized the need to read world literature and highlighted Kuvempu as a writer who not only preached values but lived by them. Influenced by Wordsworth, Kuvempu believed nature holds solutions to human-made problems and practiced those beliefs in life and literature.



Sub-Divisional Officer Mehaboob Zilani Kureshi said Kuvempu's ideals continue to inspire as he emerged as a poet, philosopher, and visionary who urged humans to work for the greater good of the world. Urban Development Authority Chairman M.K. Tajpeer noted Kuvempu's dream of a peaceful Karnataka, India, and world beyond caste and religious barriers. District Guarantee Scheme Chairman R. Shivanna added that Kuvempu's guidance remains timeless and must be adopted in daily life.

On this occasion, winners of essay competitions on Kuvempu and lecturers who performed poetry readings were felicitated. District officials and dignitaries participated, and a musical tribute was also presented.

Missing title deed

I, Meharunnisa, resident of Ajaad nagara, Huliyar, chikkanayakanahalli, Tiptur Taluk, Tumakuru - 572201, state that my title deed No CKL-1-00568-2004-2005 was lost in Huliyar city on 03/12/2024 at around 04.31 pm. If anyone has found it, kindly return it to the above address or contact this phone number: 953837456

THE VOUCHERS HAVE EXPIRED

Jayaram T.P., a resident of Thippanahalli village, Sibigrahara post office, Sira taluk, Kallambella hobli, Tumkur district. Dated: 18-12-2025 to 24-12-2025 Registration of land with clean purchase deeds SRA-1-03516/2020-21 (Devaraju T.V.) and SRA-1-00204/2015-16 (Thippaiah) I had with me when I stood to board the bus at Tippanahalli Bus Stand. Purchase papers are lost. If anyone gets two pure purchase deeds of these numbers, immediately Jayaram T.P. (Mobile No. 8073706144) is requested to be contacted.

NAME CHANGE

I, **MANJUNATHA SULIKUNTE NAGARAJA**, S/o NAGARAJA REDDY, resident of Sulikunte, Sarjapura Main Road, Bangalore-562125, have changed my name to **MANJUNATHA REDDY SULIKUNTE NAGARAJA REDDY**, Vide Affidavit Dated 27.12.2025 before notary YANKOBA, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HARSH SANTSOH MUDALE S/o SANTOSH, R/o Agni Shamak, Bhalki, Bidar,Karnataka-585328, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as HARSH SANTOSH MUDALE.

CH CLASSIFIEDS
To place a classified ad contact:
080-41209042

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್,
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಕಛೇರಿಯ ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 080-27627287, ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ : eotpdbp001@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ.ಬೆಂಗ್ರಾದೊ/ಇ.ಪ್ರೋ/ಇ.ಟೆಂ/ಸಿಆರ್/ /2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.12.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಸೇವೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ, ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ವಿಶೇಷಣಗಳನ್ನು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಾಲತಾಣ kppp.karnataka.gov.inರಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಸರಬರಾಜು ವಿವರ	EMD ಮೊತ್ತ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ
1	RDPR/ 2025-26/ IND 12936	Supply Of Various Goods to Taluk Panchayath Doddaballapura	ರೂ. 2,61,000/-	06.01.2026 5.28 PM

ಮೇಲಿನ ವಸ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಎರಡು ಕವರ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಎರಡು ಕವರ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಮ್‌ಗಳ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಲಸದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಸಹಾಯ ಡೆಸ್ಕ್- 91-8046010000, +91-8068948777, support@eprochelpdesk.com. ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಥವಾ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿರವರಿಗೆ ಕಾಯ್ದಿರಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ./ಶಿರಡಿ ಸಾಯಿ/4699/2025-26

Altum Credo Home Finance
ALTUM CREDO HOME FINANCE PRIVATE LTD
Regd. Office: Floor No. 7, Kalpataru Infinia, Wakdewadi, Shivajinagar, Pune - 411005. Maharashtra (India)

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8(1)] (For immovable property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the **Authorized Officer** of **Altum Credo Home Finance Private Limited** hereinafter referred as "ACHFL" under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (no. 3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand notice dated **03/Nov/2023** with respect to Loan Agreement No. 1192020100000 and 11920432300029 calling upon the **Mrs. Lalithamma Linga Naik ("BORROWER"), Mr. Lokeshanayaka L Linganayka ("CO-BORROWER"),** to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being **Rs. 19,77,614/- (Rs. Nineteen Lakh Seventy Seven Thousand Six Hundred And Fourteen only)** as on **30/Oct/2023** within 60 days from the receipt of the said notice.

1. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of said rules on the **24th day of December of the year 2025.**
2. The borrower/secured debtor and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with property will be subject to the charge of the **ACHFL** for an amount of **Rs. 19,77,614/- (Rs. Nineteen Lakh Seventy Seven Thousand Six Hundred And Fourteen only)** as on **30/Oct/2023** and further interest from 30/10/2023.
3. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub- section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Panchayath Khata No. 484/57, e-swathu No. 151200201800300223 measuring east to west 9.144 and north to south 12.192 Meter (111.48 Sq. Mts.), 30X40 =1200 Sq. Foot, Situated at B. Kalapanahalli village, Bethur Post, Davangere Taluka within the limits of village Panchyath Bethur, Davangere block Dist- Davangere, Karanataka 577 002 and the said property which is bounded as under- On and Towards **East** : Site No. 8, On and Towards **West** : Site No. 6, On and Towards **South:** Road, On and Towards **North:** Site No. 14.

Place : Davangere, Karanataka
Date : 30.12.2025
Sd/-
Authorized Officer
Altum Credo Home Finance Pvt. Ltd. (ACHFL)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಶ್ರೀ ಮಲೈ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರ ಬೆಟ್ಟ, ಹನೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08225-272128, ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 08225-272123 Email: sec.mmtemple@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಶ್ರೀ ಮ.ಮ.ಕ್ಷೇ.ಅ.ಪ್ರಾ/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ/8/ಪಿಆರ್/29/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24-12-2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಹಾಗೂ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜು

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ	ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಅವಧಿ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	ಶ್ರೀ ಮಲೈ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದ ಮಾಸ್ಟಪ್ಲಾನ್ ಆವರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಕೊಳ್ಳೇಗಾಲ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಲಾಕಡೆಗಳಿಂದ ಬರುವ ವಾಹನಗಳಿಗೆ ವಾಹನ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಶುಲ್ಕ ವಸೂಲಾತಿಯ ಹಕ್ಕು ಬಾಧ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು 2025-26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕಂ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಬಿಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. (ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01-02-2026 ರಿಂದ 31-01-2027ರವರೆಗೆ)	1 ವರ್ಷ	150.00	1,50,000-00
2	ಶ್ರೀ ಮಲೈ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದ ಮಾಸ್ಟರ್ ಪ್ಲಾನ್ ಆವರಣದ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಹವಾನಿಯಂತ್ರಿತ ಶ್ರೀ ಜುಂಜೇಗೌಡ ಹೋಟೆಲ್‌ನ್ನು 2 ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿ 2025-26, 2026-27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕಂ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. (ಹಕ್ಕು ಬಾಧ್ಯತೆಯ ಅವಧಿ: 01-02-2026 ರಿಂದ 2 ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ)	2 ವರ್ಷ	25.00	1,00,000.00
3	ನಡುಮಲೆ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ ಮಳಿಗೆ ನಂ. 14	11 ತಿಂಗಳು		3,000-00

ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು Www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21-11-2025 ಸಂಜೆ: 4.00 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ವಿಷಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 9886306737ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು

ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಡಿಯಡಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿದೆ.

1.	ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇ-ಹರಾಜು ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	26.12.2025	ರ ನಂತರ
2.	ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ವೇಳೆ	19.01.2026	ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ
3.	ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜು ನಡೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ವೇಳೆ	20.01.2026	ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00ರ ನಂತರ ಶ್ರೀ ಮ.ಮ. ಕ್ಷೇ.ಅ.ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಆಡಳಿತ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಒಳಾವರಣ, ಮ.ಬೆಟ್ಟ
4.	ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಎವಳೆ	20.01.2026	ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ

ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಶ್ರೀ ಮಲೈ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರ ಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರ ಬೆಟ್ಟ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಚಾ.ನಗರ/602/2025-26

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
FORMERLY MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE PVT LTD
CIN : U65923KL2010PLC039179
Regd Office: IV/470A (OLD) W/638A (NEW) Manappuram House Valapad Thrissur, Kerala 680567
Corp Office: Manappuram Home Finance Limited, Third Floor, Unit No. 301 to 315, A Wing, 'Kanakia Wall Street', Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400093, Maharashtra.
Phone No.: 022-66211000, **Website:** www.manappuramhomefin.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN")** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest *[Act], 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice** calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and Interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic** possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said *[Act] read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower / Loan account number/ Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	1. Late Manjappa H Since Deceased So Addresing To His Legal Heirs, A. Ramesh R, B. Mallappa L, /NHL00510004878/ Shimoga	All That Part And Parcel of The Property Bearing Rdpr No.152400403800100012, As Per Gram Panchayat Record Property No.85B Measuring In Total 226.08 Sq. Meter Property Situated At Chikkamagadi Village, Chikkamagadi Gram Panchayat Office, Shikaripura Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka - 577433. East-Property Belongs To Rudrappa, West-Property Belongs To Mallappa, South-Share Belongs To Kallappa, North-Gram Panchayat Road	04-10-2025 & Rs.142550/-	24-12-2025

Date: 30th December 2025 | Place: KARNATAKA | Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
FORMERLY MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE PVT LTD
CIN : U65923KL2010PLC039179
Regd Office: IV/470A (OLD) W/638A (NEW) Manappuram House Valapad Thrissur, Kerala 680567
Corp Office: Manappuram Home Finance Limited, Third Floor, Unit No. 301 to 315, A Wing, 'Kanakia Wall Street', Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400093, Maharashtra.
Phone No.: 022-66211000, **Website:** www.manappuramhomefin.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd., having our registered office at IV/470A (old) w/638A (new), Manappuram House, Valapad, Thrissur, Kerala-680567 and branches at various places in India (hereinafter referred to as "MAHOFIN") is a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a Financial Institution within the meaning of sub-clause (iv) of clause (m) of sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the Act) read with Notification No. S.O. 3466 (E) dated 18th December, 2015 issued by the Govt. of India, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, inter alia carrying on business of advancing loans for construction and / or purchase of dwelling units and whereas the Borrower / Co-Borrowers as mentioned in Column No. 2 of the below mentioned chart obtained loan from MAHOFIN and whereas MAHOFN being the secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 2 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers as mentioned herein below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served upon some of them for various reasons. That in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name Of The Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Lan/Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Npa Date	Date Of Notice Sent & Outstanding Amount
1	Shrishailappa Fakkirappa Meti, Shivalila Shrishailappa Meti, Moulasab S Nadaf, /NHL00260011530/ Hubli	Residential Property Bearing Vpc No.458, Property No.151400300600220007 Measuring East To West: 5.1816Mtr And North To South:12.192Mtr, Total Measuring 63.17Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 27.87 Situated At Jagapur Village Within Hunasikatti Gram Panchayath, Tq: Naragund & Dist: Gadag, Karnataka, Pin: 582207, East- Property of Basappa Naduvinamani, West-Property of Laxman D Majjigudda, South-Property of Mallappa Kurlageri, North-Road	08-11-2025	01-12-2025 & Rs.156523/-
2	Dodda Basappa, Mallamma A, Veerupanna P, /NHL01170034069/ Raichur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential House Property Bearing Panchayath No: 18/2 Its E Property No: 150500701308120132 Measuring Totally Measuring 55.60 Sq Meter, Situated At Araliganur Village Within Upparhosalli Gram Panchayath Limits, Tq Siruguppa Dist Bellary, Karnataka, Pin: 583122, East-Huligemma W/O Sanna Mallayya, West-House of Hulagappa S/O Girimallappa, South-House of Yallappa S/O Kristappa, North-Road	04-12-2025	10-12-2025 & Rs.400679/-
3	Mallesh U M, Puttathayamma M, Nagamma N S, /NLAP0092001929/ Vinayanagar Ramnagara	Property No.259/202, P.I.D. No.152900100500820082, Ujjanahalli Village, Bhoohalli Gramapanchayath, Channapattna Taluk, Ramanagara District, Karnataka, Pin: 562138 Measuring East To West 9.7536 Mtr And North To South 17.6784 Mtr, East-Remaining Property & Property of Umesh, West-Property of Gowramma, South-Remaining Property & Road, North-Remaining Property & Property of Venkatesh	05-12-2025	10-12-2025 & Rs.895552/-
4	Manjula R, Prabhuswamy M, Manoj Kumar D P, /MHL00920011774/ Vinayanagar Ramnagara	Property No.154/1, P.I.D. No.152100301600300204, Dabbahalli Village, Dhanaguru Gramapanchayath, Malavalli Taluk, Mandya District, Karnataka, Pin: 571437 Total Measuring 292.64 Square Meters, East-Path & Site Belongs To Sundrappa, West-House Belongs To Shekarappa, South-House Belongs To Naveen & Mallanna, North-Own Place	05-12-2025	10-12-2025 & Rs.425967/-
5	Ravishankar K, Kalegowda B, Sarojamma S, /NLAP0034014988/ Mysore	Property No.139, P.I.D. No 152200700907020130, Kanchanahalli Village, Athahalli Grama Panchayath, T Narasipura Taluk, Mysore, Karnataka, Pin: 571101 Total Measuring 153.57 Square Meters, East-Land Belongs To Bettamma, West-Property Belongs To Nagaraju, South-Property Belongs To Devaraju, North-Pathway	05-12-2025	10-12-2025 & Rs.215866/-
6	Pushpa M, Megharaja B, Basamma B, /MLAP0051006149/ Shimoga	Property No. 43, Measuring 190 X 33 Sq Feet, Saluru Grampanchayth, Shikaripura Tq,Shimoga Dist., Karnataka, Pin: 577214, East-Sri Velikamba Temple & Shivappa Property, West-Property Belongs To Nanjappa, South-Vp Road, North-Vp Road	09-12-2025	10-12-2025 & Rs.254705/-
7	Krishna Kammara, Devakka Kammar, Yallappa Kammar, Kalakappa Sangappa Hadapad, /NHL00260024028/ Hubli	Gramthana Property Vpc No. 690, Property No: 15200401000100665, Total Measuring 43.80 Sq Mtr, Kallur Village, Tq: Yalburga, Dist: Koppal, Karnataka, Pin:583236, East-Govt. Road, West-Road, South-Gram Panchayat Flourmill, North-Property of Kallayya S/O Veerabhadrayya Hiremath	09-12-2025	10-12-2025 & Rs.449264/-
8	Mangalamma V, Bhaskara H S, Swamy Hs, /MHL00340031667/ Mysore	Property No. 151, P.I.D. No. 152200103400200021, Ettige Village & Hadanuru Gp, Saraguru Taluk & Mysore District, Karnataka, Pin: 571121 Totally Measuring 185.81 Square Meters, East-House Belongs To Savitha, West-House Belongs To Siddamma, South-House Belongs To Minnamma, North-Road	08-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.316517/-
9	Rashid Mohammadali Mulla, Reshma Mulla, /NHL00980031691/ Belgaum	Gp No.406/5, Rdpr P.I.D. No. 150400303000221286, Marihal Village, Tq & Dist: Belguam, Karnataka, Pin: 591103 Measuring 46.35 Square Meters, East Panchayat Road, West-Property of Allabaksha Mulla, South-Property of Mairunabhi Mulla, North-Property of Noorjan Mulla	08-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.516088/-
10	Darshan Kumar C, Ramya R B, Ramu M, /NHL00340042459/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 58/A, P.I.D. No.152100101000200116, Situated At Kurnenahalli Village, Hariharapura Gramapanchayath, K.R. Pete Taluk, Mandya District, Karnataka, Pin: 571605 Totally Measuring 189.00 Square Meters, East- House Belongs To Jayamma W/O Nanjegowda, West-Property Belongs To Jayamma And Road, South-Road, North-Conservancy & House Belongs To Nanjamma Chikkegowda	08-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.930073/-
11	Shivanna, Lokamani, Girisha C, /NHL00340041495/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 154, P.I.D. No.152200103400200022, Situated At Hethige Grama, Hadanuru Gramapanchayat, H D Kote Block, Mysore (D)., Admeasuring 157.191940 Sq Mts of Site, Karnataka, Pin:571121, East-House of Mahesha, West-House of Ambuja, South-Road, North-House of Shivananjamma	08-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.442951/-
12	Yallawwa Mallikarjun Ghasti, Shivanand Mallikarjun Gasti, Ganesh Mallikarjun Gasti, /MHL00980002731/ Belgaum	Rs No. 826/5, P.I.D. No. 77276, Measuring 400 Sq Fts., Maruti Nagar, Tq & Dist /Belgaum, Karnataka, Pin: 590016, East-Bhangi Road, West-16 Fts Wide Road, South-Property of Shri. Vasudev Hanchati, North-Property of Shri. Narsu Kagi	10-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.303165/-
13	Maddeppa Ramappa Goder, Kashavva Ramappa Goder, Siddagouda Chikkodi, /NHL00980003517/ Belgaum	Gp No. 185, Measuring Total 735 Sq Fts., Waderhatti, Tq-Gokak, Dist-Belgaum, Karnataka, Pin: 591224, East-Gram Panchayat Road, West-House of Pandu Nandi, South-Gram Panchayat Road, North-House of Jainabi Nadaf	10-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.705444/-
14	Eramarappa M, Bhagyamma E, Meghashree E, /NLAP0093030691/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing Katha No.86/85/01 And E-Katha No.152500701400900084 Measuring East To West: 14.9352 Meters And North To South: 8.8392 Meters, Situated At Maddakkanahalli Village, Gowdagere Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist., Karnataka, Pin: 572139, East-Road, West-Road, South-Vacant Site, North-House Of Kariyamma	10-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.830287/-
15	Mamatha S, Geetha S, Swamy G, /NHL00910034495/ Hassan	Property No. 27-501-150, Ward No. 3, Sas No. 1591/1444 And 1593/1445, Nehru Nagara Town Muncipal, Belur Taluk, Hassan (D), Karnataka, Pin: 573115 Totally Measuring 81.290125 Square Meters, East-P.I.D. No. 27-501-150A., West-P.I.D. No. 27-4-149., South- Road No.502, 2nd Main Road., North-Road No.501, 1st Main Road	10-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.524567/-
16	Brunda B, Jayanna S, Gangamma K, /MHL00910033943/ Hassan	Property No. 151600204200820035, Gram Panhayat Property No. 36/A, Maladevihalli (V), Habbangatta Gramapanchayath, Arasikere (T), Hassan (D), Karnataka, Pin: 573122 Totally Measuring 88.91 Square Meters, East-Conservancy, House Property of Sri. Rangaswamy, West-Road, South-Conservancy, House Property of Sri. Nagaraju, North-Conservancy	10-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.304693/-
17	Shrikanthaiah, Asha, Arjun, /NHL00910036897/ Hassan	Gram Panchayat Property No. 167, Property Id No. 151600601401020033, Maranahalli (V), Ugane Gramapanchayath, Hassan (T), Hassan (D), Karnataka, Pin: 573216 Totally Measuring 148.64 Square Meters, East-Remaining Property of 1st Party, West Remaining Property of 1st Party, South-Road, North-Remaining Property of 1St Party	10-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.631213/-
18	Chetan A Badiger, Gangavva Badiger, Chetan Siddappa Kammar, /NHL00980037747/ Belgaum	Gp. No.210/1, Swattin No. 150400200300220117, Total Measuring 179.13 Sq Mts., Kotabagi Gram Panchayat Kalabavi, Tq/ Kittur, Dist/ Belgaum, Karnataka, Pin: 591115, East-Road, West-Property of Shekhar Basappa Devannavar, South-Property of Shivangouda Shidramgouda Patil, North-Property of Ashok Kallappa Badiger	10-12-2025	11-12-2025 & Rs.366669/-
19	Syed Ilyaz Ahmed S, Jasmin Khanam S, Mohamed Kurshid Khan, /MO90LALONS00000 5001750/ Mysore	House No. 1422/22, Property Id No. 150800301600120438, Mangala Village And Grama Panchayathi, Kollegala Taluk, Chamarajanagar, Karnataka, Pin: 571440 Measuring East To West 12.92 Meter, North To South 9.144 Meter, East-Property of Syed Riyaz, West-Property of Prabhu, South-Road, North-Road	09-12-2025	12-12-2025 & Rs.333778/-

Notice, is therefore given to the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers, as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above, against the respective Borrower / Co-Borrower, within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment of the total outstanding amount together with further interest by the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower, MAHOFIN shall be constrained to take u/s 13(4) for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described above, steps are also being taken for service of notice in other manners as prescribed under the Act and the rules made hereunder. You are put to notice that the said mortgage can be redeemed upon payment of the entire amount due together with costs, charges and expenses incurred by MAHOFIN at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or private treaty for transfer by way of sale, as detailed in Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act.

Take note that in terms of S-13 (13) of the SARFAESI Act, you are hereby restrained from transferring and/or dealing with the Secured Properties in any manner by way of sale, lease or in any other manner.

Date: 30th December 2025 | Place: KARNATAKA | Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd

QUICK READ

Stray Dog Found Carrying Infant's Body

Vidisha
Locals were shocked when a stray dog was seen carrying a newborn's body near Parashari cremation ground in Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh. People alerted the police, who identified the infant as about four to five months old. Police officer Manoj Dubey said animals sometimes unearth bodies buried near cremation grounds, possibly explaining the incident. The newborn's body was buried by authorities, and an investigation has been launched. Similar cases have been reported in the district earlier in 2025.

Actor Jayasurya, Wife Questioned In ED Case

Kochi
Malayali actor Jayasurya and his wife appeared before the Enforcement Directorate on Monday in a money laundering probe linked to a cheating case. The ED recorded their statements under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The investigation follows four FIRs filed by Thrissur police over an online investment app, 'Save Box'. ED sources said some funds from the scheme were allegedly diverted to the film industry, including payments to Jayasurya for endorsing it. No immediate comment came from the couple.

Ex-TDB Member Arrested In Sabarimala Gold Case

Thiruvananthapuram
Former Travancore Devaswom Board member N Vijayakumar was arrested on Monday in connection with the Sabarimala gold loss case. Vijayakumar, who served during former president A Padmakumar's tenure, was questioned by the Special Investigation Team in Thiruvananthapuram before his arrest. The case relates to gold plates handed for electroplating in 2019, which went missing from the Sreekovil and Dwarapalaka idols.
He is the tenth accused arrested in the probe. Vijayakumar will be produced before the Kollam Vigilance Court.

Amit Shah Alleges Congress Uses Infiltrators as Vote Bank

Amit Shah claims Congress treats Bangladeshi infiltrators as vote bank in Assam

ASSAM

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday claimed that the Congress party considers Bangladeshi infiltrators as a vote bank, threatening Assam's people, culture, and identity. Speaking at a public rally, he said the Centre would identify all illegal immigrants, not only in Assam but across India.

Shah inaugurated the Rs 227 crore redevelopment of Batadrava Than in Nagaon, the birthplace of Vaishnavite saint Srimanta Sankardeva. He described it as historic, stating that the site has been freed from encroachment. The Home Minister praised the state government, led by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, for reclaiming over one lakh bighas of land from infiltrators. "Give the BJP another five years to ensure infiltrator-free Assam," he urged the crowd. Shah emphasized that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has worked to protect Assamese cultural identity while promoting overall development. He linked Modi's efforts to Sankardeva's call of 'Ek Bharat', highlighting peace and development in Assam as tangible outcomes.

The Home Minister also reminded people that the BJP has signed peace accords with various militant outfits over the last 11 years, fulfilling 92 percent of the agreement clauses. He reiterated that the government is committed to maintaining security, development, and cultural preservation in the state. Shah's comments came amid ongoing debates about illegal immigration and Assam's demographic concerns, underscoring the government's focus on addressing these issues while reinforcing political narratives ahead of elections.

Home Minister Amit Shah opens the largest auditorium in Northeast India

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated 'Jyoti-Bishnu Antarjatik Kala Mandir' in Guwahati, Assam, the North East's largest auditorium. Built at Rs 291 crore, it accommodates 5,000 people on a 14.85-acre campus. The complex includes a convention centre, VIP suites, 450-car parking, advanced audio-visual systems, and runs on solar energy. Shah will also felicitate 1,000 Congenital Heart Disease programme beneficiaries.

Parliament Panel Reviews MGNREGA Transition Challenges

Parliamentary panel examines MGNREGA shortcomings and plans for smooth implementation of the new VB-G RAM G Act over six months

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A parliamentary panel on Monday discussed various aspects of the UPA-era rural job guarantee law, MGNREGA, and the transition to the Narendra Modi government's new VB-G RAM G Act. Members focused on ensuring a smooth shift in the next six months, including payments to beneficiaries, budget allocation, and enrolment issues. Most members noted that enrolment under MGNREGA was only around 50 per cent in several states.

No member opposed the new law, though concerns were raised about implementation time, as it will start only after rules are framed. Opposition members suggested considering earlier committee recommendations, such as extending working days from 100 to 150. BJP MPs highlighted the need for the VB-G RAM G Act to address current rural infrastructure and employment challenges, noting underutilisation of MGNREGA funds in many states.

The panel also reviewed employment data: MGNREGA covers 741 districts, 2.69 lakh gram panchayats, and over 26 crore beneficiaries, with women making up 57 per cent, SC/ST workers 36 per cent, and 4.81 lakh persons with disabilities employed.

Committee Chairman and Congress leader Saptagiri Ulaka said the panel examined MGNREGA in detail and discussed steps for a smooth transition. A briefing by the Ministry of Rural Development helped members understand the new framework. Ulaka added that discussions would continue in the Budget Session to finalise implementation and ensure all states comply with the new act. The meeting emphasized maintaining employment and infrastructure objectives while implementing the VB-G RAM G Act effectively across rural India.

Suvendu Adhikari Alleges TMC Targets BJP Activists

KOLKATA

BJP MLA and Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari on Monday alleged that saffron party workers in West Bengal are being tortured and falsely booked by state police. He accused the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) of protecting those involved in the harassment of BJP activists.

Adhikari addressed a protest rally in Nandigram, Purba Medinipur district, against the arrest of a BJP worker. The rally was organised to oppose the police action against a BJP mandal president's brother and the alleged harassment of his family. Earlier, Adhikari had visited the Nandigram police station to confront officers over the arrest, calling it a "targeted move against BJP supporters". The protest march started from Nandigram bus stand and ended at the Janakinath temple, with a large turnout of BJP supporters. Women activists led the rally. Adhikari said the party would approach the court to secure the release of the arrested worker when it reopens on January 5.

He emphasised that BJP would not leave Hindus "at the mercy of the Mamata Banerjee government" and claimed the harassment was not by any particular religious group but by individuals involved in alcohol, gambling, and other anti-social activities. Adhikari alleged that these individuals were TMC supporters responsible for the atrocities against BJP workers.

Delhi High Court grants interim relief to Akasa Air operator against recruitment scams misusing brand

Delhi HC grants interim protection to Akasa Air operator

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has granted interim protection to SNV Aviation Private Limited, the operator of Akasa Air, against alleged recruitment scams using its brand and trademarks. A single-judge Bench of Justice Manmeet Pritam Singh Arora passed the order in a commercial suit filed by the airline. The court noted that defendants were falsely representing themselves as Akasa Air, offering jobs, and demanding "process fees," though the airline does not follow such recruitment practices. Justice Arora observed that these acts amounted to misrepresentation, deception, and passing off, and continuing such activity could cause irreparable harm.

SNV Aviation, operating under its trademarks "AKASA" and "AKASA AIR" since 2021, reported external turnover of Rs 4,582.7 crore for 2024-25 so far. The airline claimed that defendants colluded to run scams by using similar marks like "AKASHA" and "AKAASA," registering infringing domain names, and contacting job seekers through emails and calls to extract money.

The court restrained the defendants from using the airline's trademarks or similar marks on documents, domain names, email addresses, or other material. It directed domain registrars like GoDaddy and Hostinger to suspend infringing domains and asked MeitY, DoT, NPCI, and banks to disclose KYC details, block mobile numbers, bank accounts, and UPI IDs linked to the defendants.

Justice Arora ordered compliance within one week and listed the matter before the Joint Registrar on February 3, 2026, and before the Bench on May 22, 2026, emphasizing that the injunction is necessary to protect the general public from fraudulent activity.

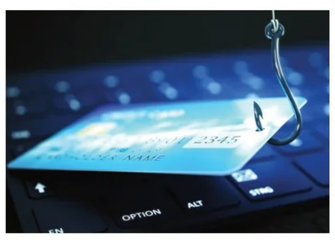
Cyber scam dupes woman of Rs 3.71 crore digitally

MUMBAI

A 68-year-old woman from Andheri West, Mumbai, lost Rs 3.71 crore in a sophisticated "digital arrest" scam, police said. One accused was arrested from Surat, Gujarat, while investigations continue to track the masterminds abroad.

The cyber criminals posed as Colaba police officers and central agency personnel. They even staged a fake online court hearing, where one accused introduced himself as "Justice Chandrachud". The fraudsters claimed the victim's bank account was involved in money laundering and kept her under constant digital surveillance.

The scam began on August 18 when the victim received a call from a person claiming to be officer SK Jaiswal. He threatened her against disclosing the matter and extracted her bank details. She was made to write an essay about her life and later appeared on video before the fake judge. Believing the process to be real, she transferred Rs 3.75 crore into multiple accounts over two months.



The victim realised she was cheated when the calls stopped and reported the case to West Region Cyber Police Station. Investigators found the money routed through several mule accounts, one traced to Surat. The arrested man had opened a fake company account to park Rs 1.71 crore, earning Rs 6.4 lakh as commission.

Police revealed that two main masterminds of the racket are currently abroad. Digital arrest scams, where fraudsters pose as law-enforcement officers to intimidate victims, are rising in India. The Supreme Court recently directed the CBI to conduct a unified national probe into such cases.

Raj Thackeray urges MNS workers to unite with Sena

MUMBAI

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) president Raj Thackeray on Monday urged his party workers to set aside differences and work together with Shiv Sena (UBT) to "save Mumbai" and ensure the alliance succeeds in the upcoming Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) elections on January 15.

Addressing party functionaries at Rangasharda auditorium, Thackeray warned that some forces are planning to separate Mumbai from Maharashtra. Quoting him, senior leader Bala Nandgaonkar said, "This dream of breaking Mumbai must be destroyed. Mumbai belongs to Marathi manoos and Maharashtra. No fight is bigger than Maharashtra."

Thackeray stressed the importance of alliance dharma, asking MNS workers to actively support Shiv Sena (UBT) and Nationalist Congress Party (SP) candidates in the civic polls.

Overloaded truck crushes SUV, one dead

RAMPUR

A tragic accident on the Delhi-Nainital highway in Rampur claimed one life on Sunday evening when an overloaded truck carrying wood shavings lost balance, mounted a road divider, and toppled onto a Bolero SUV, police said.

The SUV, used by the Uttar Pradesh electricity department, was turning at a highway cut near Pahari Gate crossing when the incident occurred. Video footage showed the truck swerving to avoid the SUV, climbing the divider, and falling directly onto the vehicle, crushing it within seconds. The SUV driver, identified as Firasat Khan of Gujjar Tola, was trapped inside and died instantly. Rescue teams used cranes and bulldozers to retrieve his body, which was stuck in the steering wheel.

The Bolero, bearing a UP government plate, was a contract vehicle for Sub-Divisional Officer Nagendra Kumar at the Khod sub-station. Kumar described Khan as a responsible driver and expressed grief over the loss, adding that compensation would be provided by the contractor or through insurance.

Rampur Superintendent of Police Vidyasagar Mishra said the accident caused a nearly two-kilometre traffic jam for about three hours, with diversions in place during rescue operations. The truck driver sustained injuries and was hospitalised.

Police and fire services from multiple stations managed the rescue, traffic, and inquest proceedings. The SUV driver's body was sent for post-mortem, and legal action is expected after formalities are completed. Authorities are examining all angles to ensure proper investigation.

Nine arrested in Rs 12 crore Gurgaon realty fraud

GURGAON

In a shocking real estate scam, a woman was cheated of Rs 12.04 crore after being promised a luxury flat at DLF Camellias in Gurgaon at nearly half the market price through a fake bank auction deal, police said. The fraud dates back to August 2024, when the woman was looking for a house in an upscale society. She met Abhinav Pathak, a medicine distributor, who claimed he could get her a premium flat at a discounted rate via a bank auction. Pathak, along with representatives of M/s MG Leasing & Finance, allegedly showed forged sale certificates, auction receipts, and letters, purportedly from the State Bank of India.

Believing the documents, the woman transferred Rs 12.04 crore through RTGS and demand drafts between August and October 2024. The scam was exposed when the bank confirmed the papers were fake, prompting her to file a complaint on June 13.

The Delhi Police Crime Branch's Inter-State Cell investigated the case, tracing the money to a firm owned by Mohit Gogia, who was arrested on November 22 while fleeing towards Uttarakhand. During interrogation, Gogia revealed four others were involved, including property dealer Vishal Malhotra and Sachin Gulati, who helped route the money, and Bharat Chhabra, who forged documents. Pathak acted as the link between the gang and the victim.

Police said Gogia specialised in creating fake auction and title documents. The gang allegedly duped victims of over Rs 200 crore across multiple states. Cars bought with fraud proceeds were seized, and efforts continue to trace remaining suspects, including Ram Singh.

RABIES ALERT

Buffalo Milk Incident Sparks Rabies Vaccinations

BUDAUN

Nearly 200 residents of Piprauli village in Budaun, Uttar Pradesh, received rabies vaccinations last week after consuming raita made from the milk of a buffalo that later died. The buffalo had been bitten by a dog and passed away on 26 December, showing clear symptoms of rabies three days after the bite.

Fearing potential infection, villagers immediately rushed to the Ujhani Health Centre for precautionary anti-rabies shots. Chief Medical Officer Dr Rameshwar Mishra confirmed that the buffalo displayed signs of rabies before its death. He said, "Prevention is better than cure. Everyone who had doubts was vaccinated. Normally, boiled milk is safe, but we chose to take precautions to ensure no risk to anyone."

Health officials acted promptly, urging all residents who had consumed the "tainted" raita to receive the vaccine. Vaccination services were kept open through Saturday and Sunday to ensure that anyone seeking treatment could be attended to immediately. Authorities are also closely monitoring the village to prevent the spread of rumours and unnecessary panic among residents.

Local resident Dharmpal said the buffalo became sick and died due to the dog bite. Since its milk had been used in a yoghurt dish served to guests at a funeral, villagers opted to get vaccinated as a safety measure.

So far, no cases of rabies or illness have been reported, and the situation in the village remains stable. The health department continues to monitor the area closely, ensuring public safety and preventing misinformation from spreading. Authorities have praised the community for cooperating with the vaccination drive and taking timely precautions.

Delhi CM reviews plans for Shabdotsav festival

Shabdotsav will host over 100 speakers, 40+ book releases, six cultural performances, and student participation from 40 universities

NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta reviewed the plans for the upcoming 'Delhi Shabdotsav' literary and cultural festival with the organising team.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday met with the team organising the newly-announced 'Delhi Shabdotsav' at Major Dhyan Chand Stadium, scheduled from January 2 to 4. Art and Culture Minister Kapil Mishra briefed her about the event schedule, campaign activities, and participation of thinkers, writers, and speakers from across India. CM Gupta shared updates on X, highlighting book releases, cultural presentations, and a poets' conclave during the festival.

The programme will feature over 100 prominent speakers including National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Sunil Ambekar, Manmohan Vaidya, and Sachchidanand Joshi. More than 40 books will be released, along with six cultural performances such as Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Bhajan Sandhya, Kavi Sammelan, and Somnath Jyotirlinga Darshan. Students from nearly 40 universities across Delhi NCR will also participate, ensuring wide engagement among youth.

The Delhi Government, in partnership with Suruchi Prakashan, will host the country's largest literary and cultural festival, which will now become an annual event under the Ministry of Culture. CM Gupta will inaugurate the festival, while Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and Chhattisgarh Home Minister Vijay Sharma are expected to attend. Cabinet colleague Ashish Sood, MLAs Abhay Verma and Rajkumar Bhatia, and other distinguished guests were present during the meeting.

The Delhi Shabdotsav aims to celebrate literature, arts, and culture on a national scale, providing a platform for intellectual discussions, creative performances, and book launches, marking a major step in promoting cultural engagement in the capital.

INSV Kaundinya begins maiden Oman voyage; PM Modi wishes crew

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended his best wishes as INSV Kaundinya embarked on its maiden overseas journey from Porbandar to Muscat, showcasing India's rich maritime traditions.

The Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Kaundinya, an indigenously built stitched sailing ship, sailed from Porbandar, Gujarat to Muscat on December 29. PM Modi praised the Indian Navy, designers, artisans, and shipbuilders for their dedication in creating this unique vessel. He wished the crew a safe and memorable journey as they retrace India's historic maritime links with the Gulf region.

Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command, formally flagged off the expedition in the presence of Oman's Ambassador to India, Issa Saleh Al Shibani, senior naval officers, and distinguished guests. Constructed using centuries-old techniques with natural materials, the vessel revives India's legacy of indigenous shipbuilding, seamanship, and oceanic navigation.

The voyage retraces ancient maritime routes connecting India's western coast with Oman, promoting trade, cultural exchange, and civilisational interactions across

the Indian Ocean. It also aims to strengthen bilateral relations, reinforcing shared maritime heritage, cultural links, and people-to-people ties. The arrival in Muscat will symbolise enduring friendship, mutual trust, and cooperation between the two nations.

Commander Vikas Sheoran will skipper INSV Kaundinya, with Commander Y Hemant Kumar as Officer-in-Charge. The crew includes four officers and thirteen sailors. The expedition highlights India's commitment to maritime diplomacy, heritage preservation, and regional cooperation, reflecting the country's role as a culturally rooted and responsible maritime nation in the Indian Ocean Region.

INSV Kaundinya, built using ancient stitched-ship techniques, sets sail from Porbandar to Muscat, reflecting India's maritime heritage and strengthening cultural ties with Oman

QUICK READ

UP closes schools till Jan 1 amid severe cold wave

Lucknow

The Uttar Pradesh government has ordered closure of schools up to Class 12 till January 1 due to an intense cold wave. Over 30 districts, including Varanasi, Kanpur, and Aligarh, reported dense fog, reducing visibility to near zero in several cities. Temperatures remained below 10°C in 38 districts, with Meerut recording 6.7°C. The Meteorological Department warned the cold wave will continue for four days. UP CM Yogi Adityanath instructed authorities to provide bonfires and blankets at public places and advised people to avoid unnecessary travel, especially for elderly and children.

India Seeks Fugitive Shattaf Extradition UAE

New Delhi

India has begun the process to extradite Hussain Mohammed Shattaf from the UAE in connection with the 2006 murder of retired Captain Manmohan Singh Virdi in Lonavala, Maharashtra. Shattaf is reportedly living in the UAE illegally using forged documents. The Ministry of External Affairs has forwarded the request to the Indian Embassy in the UAE. He faces charges of murder, forgery, criminal breach of trust, and using false documents to obtain residency and a passport.

CPI Demands Regularisation of Differently-Abled

Chennai

The Communist Party of India (CPI) has urged the Tamil Nadu government to immediately regularise thousands of differently-abled temporary employees in government and aided departments. CPI Tamil Nadu State Secretary M. Veerapandian said many workers are on lump-sum pay, consolidated wages, special allowances, or daily wages, without job security or service benefits. Despite years of continuous service, these employees have been denied permanent status, equal pay, and other rights given to regular government staff, highlighting the need for urgent government action.

VP Radhakrishnan Calls Graduates Nation Builders

PUDUCHERRY

Vice President and Chancellor of Pondicherry University C. P. Radhakrishnan on Monday urged graduating students to take responsibility for shaping India's future, calling them the architects of Viksit Bharat2047.

Addressing the 30th Convocation, Radhakrishnan drew inspiration from the ancient Tamil text Naladiyar, reminding students that while knowledge is limitless, time to acquire it is finite. He encouraged graduates to absorb what is valuable, ethical, and meaningful from the vast pool of information and to apply their learning responsibly for nation-building.

During his visit, the Vice President inaugurated the Mahakavi Subramania Bharati International Convention Centre at Pondicherry University and unveiled a statue of the legendary poet at the Bharatiyar Memorial, paying tribute to Bharatiyar's fearless words, revolutionary ideas, and devotion to Tamil and India. Radhakrishnan noted that Bharatiyar's decade-long stay in Puducherry marked a golden age of modern Tamil literature and a period of deep philosophical inquiry.

Radhakrishnan also inaugurated the Senior Secondary Block of Petit Seminaire CBSE School, appreciating its 181-year legacy of holistic and value-based education. Highlighting education as an enduring form of wealth, he urged students to pursue knowledge with depth, integrity, and social responsibility, stressing that Viksit Bharat2047 will be realised through the integration of knowledge, character, and service.

Lt. Governor K. Kailashnathan, Chief Minister N. Rangasamy, and other dignitaries attended the convocation. Radhakrishnan's visit, part of a two-day tour covering Puducherry, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, combined educational engagements with cultural tributes, inspiring both students and the wider community to contribute meaningfully to India's growth and development.

Four Juveniles Held For Brutal Sickle Attack

CHENNAI

Four 17-year-old boys were taken into custody on Monday for brutally attacking a man with a sickle near Tiruttani railway station in Tiruvallur district, shocking local residents. The victim, 34-year-old Suraj from Kolhapur, Maharashtra, sustained serious injuries during the assault. Police said the juveniles, reportedly intoxicated, first threatened him on a train by placing a knife on his neck and recorded the act on a mobile phone. After getting off the train, they dragged Suraj to a secluded area near the railway quarters and attacked him with a sickle, causing grievous injuries. Alerted by passers-by, police rushed to the spot and rescued Suraj. He was initially treated at a nearby government hospital and later referred to Tiruvallur Government Hospital for further care. Investigators described the assault as having "murderous intent." The attackers uploaded the video of the attack on social media platforms, including Instagram, seemingly seeking notoriety.

Police examined CCTV footage from the station and nearby areas, which helped identify the suspects. All four juveniles, residents of Nemili near Tiruttani, were taken into custody and produced before authorities under the Juvenile Justice Act.

CM Yogi Stresses Youth Sports For Developed India

GORAKHPUR

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath highlighted the role of sports in youth development and nation-building, urging young people to actively participate in games and physical activities.

Addressing a gathering in Gorakhpur, CM Yogi praised the significant improvements in sports infrastructure across the state over the past 11 years. He emphasized that every village will have a sports field, allowing youth to engage in games, sports, and yoga, which he said are essential for maintaining a healthy body and mind. "Only when our youth play will the country flourish, and the path to a developed India will begin," he stated, underlining the importance of physical activity in shaping a strong and disciplined society. Earlier, CM Yogi visited a night shelter near a dharamshala in Gorakhpur, distributing blankets and food packets to the needy, he noted that a severe cold wave is affecting North India, including Uttar Pradesh, and the state government has taken proactive measures to protect vulnerable populations. The administration has allocated sufficient funds to set up night shelters in all districts and ensure blanket distribution for those in need.

CM Yogi personally inspected night shelters in Transport Nagar and Dharamshala Bazaar, overseeing relief operations and interacting with residents. He reiterated that serving and ensuring the safety of the state's 25 crore citizens remains the government's top priority.

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Corp Office: Manappuram Home Finance Limited, Third Floor, Unit No. 301 to 315, A Wing, 'Kanakia Wall Street', Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400093, Maharashtra. **Phone No.:** 022-66211000, **Website:** www.manappuramhomefin.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN")** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest *[Act], 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice** calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and Interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic** possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said *[Act] read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower/ Loan account number/ Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	Manjula M, Mahesh V, Sara Samma, /NHL00340029751/ Mysore	Property No. 64A, Unique No. 151800206800520068, Hebbale Village & Square Meteres Avarapete Talluk & Kodagu District. Measuring Totally 101.17 Square Meters Karnataka, Pin: 571232. East-Residential House Belongs To Vasanth, West-House Belongs To Kumara, South-Hill, North-Road	09-10-2025 & Rs.545966/-	27-12-2025
2	Suleman Mahmadsab Mishrikoti, Jannatabi Mahmadsab Mishrikoti, Sheerin Suleman Mishrikoti, Riyazahamed A Odekar, /NHL00260025339/ Hubli	All The Part And Parcel of The Property Bearing Gramapanchayat Property No. 76/1 Measuring 52.65 Sq. Mtrs Along With Residential Structure Bearing P.I.D. No. 151300302100200107 Kudalagi Village, Kalaghatagi, Taluk Dharwad District, Karnataka, Pin: 581204. East-Property of Krishna Dalavi, West-Property of Shamasuddin Mishrikoti, South-Property of Nisarahmed Mishrikoti, North-Road	09-10-2025 & Rs.611122/-	27-12-2025
3	Somashekhara C, Mahalakshmi D, Chaya S, /NHL00340010350/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 1761, P.I.D. No. 152200426114020008, Situated At Udburu Grama, Udburu Gramapanchayat, Mysore Block, Mysore (D). Measuring: E-W: 6.096 Meter & N-S: 9.144 Meter. Admeasuring: 55.74 Sq Mts. Pin 570008 Karnataka East-House of Javaranayaka, West-Road, South-Road, North-House of Chikkamanchana	09-10-2025 & Rs.839135/-	27-12-2025
4	Yadukumar N, Shobha, Theerthakumar, Pushpa, Geetha, Chindabaram, /NHL00910037135/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 26-519-296, Ward No. 16, Sas No. 3312/4067/38 And Property Situated At 296, # T, 9th Cross Road, Hanumantha Nagar, Belur Taluk, Hassan District Measuring: East To West: 12.192024 Meters And North To South: 9.144018 Meters, Totally Measuring 111.4841 Square Meters And Constructed Plinth Area 102.379106 Square Meters Pin: 573115, Karnataka.east-Property of Sri. Ranganath, West-Road, South-Property of Sri. Vijaya, North-Property of Smt. Puttalakshmi	09-10-2025 & Rs.1005358/-	27-12-2025
5	Mahesh S, Shivanna M, Jayamma S, /NHL00340035627/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 4-13- 76A/2, Assessment No. 430/379/2, Situated At Ward No.11, Nayakara Street Main Road, 3rd Division, Gundlupete, Chamarajanagara District, Karnataka - 571111 Measuring Totally 32 Square Meters. east-Conservancy And House Belongs To Subbalaskhmi., West-Property Belongs To Mahadevanayaka., South-House Belongs To Mahadevanayaka., North-House Belongs To Mahadevanayaka.	10-10-2025 & Rs.215207/-	27-12-2025
6	Rajamma, H S Mahendra, Siddashetty, /MHL01280043701/ Chamrajnagar	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 157/2, P.I.D. No. 150800103600300257, Situated At Hirebeguru Grama, Kulagana Gramapanchayat, Chamarajanagara Block, Chamarajanagara (D), Karnataka - 571109. Admeasuring 116.13 Sq Mts. East-Beedi, West-Road, South-Galli & House of Karimadashetty, North-Galli & House of Madashetty	10-10-2025 & Rs.230315/-	27-12-2025
7	Gowramma, Madhu, Prakasha, Sannaiah B, /MHL01280037845/ Chamrajnagar	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing Junger No. 450, Assessment No. 338 P.I.D. No. 150800201000220292, Situated At Ankanahalli Grama, Bommalapura Gramapanchayat, Gundlupet Block, Chamarajanagara (D), Karnataka - 571111 Admeasuring 70.20 Sq Mts. East-House of Siddaiah S/O Siddaiah, West-Vacant Site of Sheenaiah., South-Road, North-Road	10-10-2025 & Rs.268744/-	27-12-2025
8	Shyla T, Sampath Kumar T, Ankitha K L, /MHL00910028941/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No.150900102300400061 Gram Panchayatta Property No. 55, Survey No. 17, And Property Situated At Neradi Village, Basakal Gram Panchayatta, Chikkamagaluru Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District, Karnataka - 577133. Totally Measuring 80.26 Square Meters. East-Own Property, West-Own Property And Road, South-Road, North-Own Property	10-10-2025 & Rs.319077/-	27-12-2025
9	Kamalamma Chunchaiah, Ravikumara M S, Swamaiah Bhommaiah, /MHL00910038875/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No.151600302201320098, Gram Panchayath Property No. 520, Survey No. 234/1B And Property Situated At Santemarooru Village, Santemarooru Gram Panchayath, Arakalagud Taluk And Hassan District, Karnataka - 573102 Totally Measuring 167.23 Square Meters. East-Property of Sri. Javaraiah, West-Own Property, South-Own Property, North-Road	10-10-2025 & Rs.322966/-	27-12-2025
10	Siddaraju R C, Prema, Huvamma, /NHL01280040959/ Chamrajnagar	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 190/190, P.I.D. No.152200538087000224, Situated At Rajuru Grama, Nallithalapura Gramapanchayat, Nanajngud Block, Mysore (D), Karnataka - 571314 Admeasuring 32.05 Sq Mts. East- Site of Chennaiah, West-Applicant House., South-Road, North-Old House of Chenna	10-10-2025 & Rs.369533/-	27-12-2025
11	Vani Bai, Puneethkumar B N, Naga Naik, /MLAP0091037137/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600203400400196, Gram Panchayath Property No. 72/55, And Property Situated At Mududi Village, Mududi Gram Panchayath, Arasikere Taluk And Hassan District, Karnataka - 573119 Totally Measuring 89.28 Square Meters.east-House Property of Sri. Shankara Naik, West-House Property of Smt. Seethabai, South-Road, North-House Property of Sri. Julanaiak	10-10-2025 & Rs.372673/-	27-12-2025
12	Gowramma C, Siddaraju S, Chaya R, Shivanegowda D, /MHL00340035767/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. J/2019/20/341, P.I.D. No.152200423096000513 Situated At Maavinahalli Village, Jayapura Gramapanchayath, Mysore Taluk And Mysore District, Karnataka - 570008 Total Measuring 123.83 Square Meters. East-Property Belongs To Ratnamma, West-Property Belongs To Swamegowda S/O Sannahydegowda, South-Property Belongs To Krishnegowda S/O Kalegowda, North-Private Property	10-10-2025 & Rs.418455/-	27-12-2025
13	Renukamma, H K Krishnamurthy, Bangaramma, /MHL00910036819/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 36-507-46, Ward No. 23, Sas No. Survey No.13, Ashraya Site No. 46, And Property Situated At 46, A D Colony, Holenarasipura, Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka - 573211 Totally Measuring 55.7418 Square Meters.east-Road, West-Site No. 77, South-Site No. 47, North-C A 5 Land	10-10-2025 & Rs.426837/-	27-12-2025
14	Shrikant Kalappa Badiger, Kalappa Laxman Badiger, Laxmibai Kalappa Badiger, Suresh Kalappa Badiger, /NHL00260015143/ Hubli	Residential Property Bearing Cts No.1847, Assessment No.1847, Property No.17-507-110, Ward No.19, Total Measuring 38.461842Sq Mtr Situated At Huded Bail Oni, Annigeri, Tq Annigeri & Dist: Dharwad, Karnataka - 582201. East-Lagu No.1862, West-Lagu No.1846, South-Road, North-Lagu No.1845 And 1862	10-10-2025 & Rs.478600/-	27-12-2025
15	V N Parashurama, Prema S, Sannegowda R, Vidya N, /NLAP0091034959/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600602900800039, Property Katha No. 32/45 In Survey No. 3/3 And Property Veerapura Village, Seege Gramapanchayath, Hassan (T), Totally Measuring 63.55 Square Meters Constructed Plinth Area 63.55 Square Meters Hassan (D) Karnataka, Pin: 573219. East-House Property of Sri. Channegowda, West-House Property of Smt. Rukmini, South-Own Property, North-Road	10-10-2025 & Rs.518829/-	27-12-2025
16	Gokulamma G, Shivaraju S, Singaiah S, Sumathi Bs, /MLAP0090033451/ Vivekananda Circle	All The Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing K Beltthuru Grama Panchayathi Property No. 301/301 As Per Form No. 9 And 11 A Unique No. 152200101704520120 Kulya Village Heggadadevanakote Taluk Mysore District Totally Measuring 222.97 Square Meters And Building Measuring 77.71 Square Meters Karnataka, Pin: 571125. East-Road, West-House of Basavamma, South-House of Sannadevamma, North-House of Chinnamma	10-10-2025 & Rs.511332/-	27-12-2025
17	Ravisha Bj, Kalamma, Raghu Javaregowda, /NHL00910036275/ Hassan	All The Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Grama Panchayth Property No. 656, Bearing No. 151600701200300627, Bidarakka Village And Gramapanchayath, Holenarasipura(T), Hassan (D) Totally Measuring 79.80 Square Meters Constructed Plinth Area 79.80 Square Meters. Karnataka, Pin: 573136.East-House Property of Sri. Rajaiah, West-House Property of Sri. Javaraiah, South-Road, North-Site Property of Sri. B.K. Sundresh	10-10-2025 & Rs.514930/-	27-12-2025
18	Sharif Mudakappa Hadimani,Basavaraj Mudakappa Hadiman, Santosh Mudakappa Hadimani, Sharavva Mudakappa Hunagundi, Padiyavva Shivappa Dandina, Prakash Ramappa Madar, /NLAP0026002021/ Hubli	Residential Gramathana Property Bearing Vpc No. 69/A Property No. 151400401200600078 Totaalymeasuring 73.36 Sq, Mtr Hunagundi Village Ron Taluk, Gadag, Karnataka, Pin: 582203. East-Vpc No. 70, West-Vpc No. 69/B, South-Vpc No. 11 B/9, North-Road	10-10-2025 & Rs.251765/-	27-12-2025
19	Seeramma G, Govindanaik M, /MHL00900018364/ Vivekananda Circle	All That Piece And Parcel of Property No. 235/1 Unique No 150800103000520400, Measuring Site 104.04 Sq, Mtrs Building E-W: 10.6680000 Mtrs And N-S 9.7536 Mtrs Sagade Village And Gramapanchayat Chamarajanagara Taluk & District Karnataka 571128,. East-House of Shambaiah Nanjanayaka, West-Vacant Site of Nanjanayaka, South-Road, North-Vacant Site of Nanjanayaka	10-10-2025 & Rs.235493/-	27-12-2025
20	Thirtha C K, Prabhu D H, Hucchaiah, /MHL00910046005/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600302300200062, Gram Panchayath Property No. 13, And Property Situated At Koratikerekavalu Village, Koratikere Gram Panchayath, Arkalgud Taluk, Hassan District Measuring East To West 6.7056000000000004 And North To South 10.668000000000001, Totally Measuring 71.54 Square Meters And Constructed Plinth Area 71.54 Square Meters Pin 573142 Karnataka.east-Road, West-Own House Property, South-Vacant Property of Sri. Dinesh, North-Road	10-10-2025 & Rs.241937/-	27-12-2025
21	Sarojamma B, Boregowda B S, /MHL00340012422/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 20/ 15, P.I.D. No. 152100100700300021, Situated At B. Bachahalli Village, Bukinakereg rama Panchayath, Krishnarajapete Taluk, Mandya District, Measuring East To West 10.0584 Meters And North To South 15.24 Meters, Pin: 571812 Karnataka. East-Conservancy And House Belongs To Daggunnegowda, West-Conservancy And House Belongs To Singamma, South-Site Belongs To Hombegowda, North-Road	10-10-2025 & Rs.252509/-	27-12-2025
22	Lakshmi N, Mahesha G, Govindanayaka M, /MHL00900024417/ Shimoga	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.68, P.I.D. No. 150800102700121114, Situated At Nagavalli Village, Nagavalli Gramapanchayath, Chamarajanagara Taluk And Chamarajanagara District, Measuring East To West 9.144 Meters And North To South 12.192 Meters,Totally Measuring 111.48 Square Meters, Pin: 571342,Karnataka. East-Vacant Site Belongs To Madanayaka, West-Vacant Site Belongs To Maheshanayaka, South-Road, North-House Belongs To Madannanayaka	10-10-2025 & Rs.257175/-	27-12-2025
23	Rukmini, C K Shaji, C K Krishnan, /MLAP0034043425/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 48/49, P.I.D. No. 152200101605000187, Situated At Padukote Grama, Padukotekaval Gramapanchayat, Heggadadevanakote Block, Mysore (D). Measuring: E-W: 15.24 Meter & N-S: 8.2296 Meter Admeasuring 125.42 Sq Mts. Pin 571189, Karnataka. East-Road, West-Galli, South-House of Vinod C K, North-Umesha's Nyaya Bele Angadi	10-10-2025 & Rs.264425/-	27-12-2025
24	Ariif M, Sufiya M, /NHL00510006814/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 454, E-Property No. 152400200900400550, Measuring East-West 18.288 Meter X North-South 7.3152000000000001 Meter, Total 133.78 Sq. Meter, Including 65.03 Sq. Meter House, Situated At Baruve Village, Rippanpete Village Panchayath, Hosanagara Taluk, Shivamogga District, Pin: 577426, Karnataka. East-Village Panchayath Road, West-Conservancy Road, South-House of Khathija-Bi, North-House of Tanveer	10-10-2025 & Rs.313340/-	27-12-2025
25	Shabber Ahmad, Kashimasab Ballari, Mamatajabegam Ballari, Hameedabanu Shabbirahmad Ballari, Altafahmed Mahabubsab Ballary, /NHL00260035987/ Hubli	Residential Property Bearing VPC No.1426/18, Property No. 151400400900121397, Measuringeast To West: 6.096Mtr And North To South: 9.144Mtr, Total Measuring 55.74Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 55.74Sq Mtr, Situated At Hole-Alur, Tq: Ron & Dist: Gadag, Pin: 582203 Karnataka. East-Road, West-Plot No.17, South-Road, North-Plot No.9	10-10-2025 & Rs.306611/-	27-12-2025
26	Devamma D, Pradeepa A R, /MHL00910025267/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No.151600301100400035, Gram Panchayath Khatha No. 15, Situated At K. Abburu Village, Bannuru Gram Panchayath, Arakalgud Taluk And Hassan District, Karnataka - 573130 Totally Measuring 78.09 Square Meters. East-House Property of Sri. Dasharatha, West-House Property of Sri. Venkategowda, South-Village Road, North-Property of Sri. Dasharatha.	10-10-2025 & Rs.404551/-	27-12-2025
27	Sowmya N P, Lakkamma V, Ramu M, /MHL00920012408/ Vinayanagar Ramnagara	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Katha No. 181/156 P.I.D. No. 152100501601700347 Doddabala Village, And Gramapanchayth Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya District, Karnataka-571802. Measuring: E-W: 10.3632 Meter. N-S: 10.3632 Meter. East-Own Property, West-Honi Road, South-Gully And Property Belongs To Rajayya, North-Own Property	11-10-2025 & Rs.257187/-	27-12-2025
28	Pushpa, Bisha, Besil Thomas E B, /MLAP0051042045/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/ Property No. 285, E-Property No. 150900501202000287, Measuring East-West 12.192 Meter X North-South 9.144 Meter, Total 111.48 Sq. Meter, Including 42.36 Sq. Meter, Building Situated At Gubbiga Village, Gubbiga Village Panchayath, Narasimharajapura Taluk, Chikkamagalore District, Karnataka - 577134. East-Site No. 27, West-Road, South-Site No. 23, North-Site No. 21	11-10-2025 & Rs.318642/-	27-12-2025
29	Gouramma, Nagendrappa U, Mallikarjuna U, /MHL00510010367/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 8, E-Property No. 152400403300100373, Measuring Total 167.23 Sq. Meter, Including 68.28 Sq. Meter Building, Situated At Thogarsi Village, Thogarsi Village Panchayath, Shikaripura Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka - 577433. East-Property of Ramappa S/O Durgappa, West-Property of Anjaneya, South-Road, North-Road	11-10-2025 & Rs.369589/-	27-12-2025
30	Tippanna N, Neelamma T, Balappa N, /NHL01170035435/ Raichur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential House Property Bearing Panchayath No. 247 Its E Property No: 152300203400220048 Totally Measuring 32.50 Sq Meter, Situated At Ashihal Village Within Khiravadgi Gram Panchayath Limits, Tq Lingasagur Dist Raichur, Karnataka - 584125. East-Road, West-Road, South-Flour Mill, North-House of Ramanna	11-10-2025 & Rs.408402/-	27-12-2025
31	Yallavva Hanumappa Kuri, Nagaraj Hanumappa Kuri, Manjula Nagaraj Kuri, Hanumantappa Ningappa Basapattana, /MLAP0026030939/ Hubli	Residential Gramthana Property Bearing Vpc No.17, Property No.152000203500100021, Measuring East To West: 17.50 Mtr And North To South: 7.40 Mtr, Total Measuring 129.50 Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 129.50 Sq Mtr, Situated At Gabbur Village Within Guladalli Gram Panchayat, Tq: & Dist: Koppal, Karnataka - 583228. East-Road, West-Passage, South-Property of Kariyavva Iragar, North-Passage	11-10-2025 & Rs.409652/-	27-12-2025
32	N Janani N, N Hari, Venkatesh Chalawadi, /MHL01170024633/ Raichur	Residential House Property Bearing Panchayath No. 90 E Property No. 152300503100200081, Measuring Totally 297.29 Sq Meter In Rh No. 1, Tq Sindhanur, Raichur Karnataka - 584143. East-Road, West-Road, South-Plot No. 91, North-Plot No. 89	11-10-2025 & Rs.423218/-	27-12-2025
33	Jayanthi, Kempaiah, /MHL00910045463/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600702401500227, Gram Panchayath Property No. 181, And Property Situated At Jakanahalli Village, Kyathanahalli Gram Panchayath, Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka - 573210 Measuring East To West 10.57656 And North To South 6.4008, Totally Measuring 67.70 Square Meters. East-House Property of Sri. Prakash, West-Road, South-House Property of Sri. Byraiah., North-House Property of Smt. Javaramma.	11-10-2025 & Rs.460896/-	27-12-2025
34	Laxman Shivaji Gurav, Asha Shivaji Gurav, Shivaji Laxman Gurav, /NLAP0098002462/ Belgaum	Residential Property Bearing Ghat No. 149/1, G.P.M. No. 719, Measuring 83.64 Sq. Mtrs. Situated At Rajgoli, Tq: Chandgad, Dist: Kolhapur, Karnataka - 416508. East-Water Tank of Gram Panchayat, West-House of Kempanna Shivputra Kumbar, South-Property of Shobha Parashram Gurav, North- Road of Gram Panchayat	11-10-2025 & Rs.864259/-	27-12-2025
35	Anand Guled, Renuka Guled, Hanumanthappa Guleda, Apoorava B Sankanmanavar, Geeta Basavaraj Guled, /NHL00260029095/ Hubli	Property Is In The Name of Co-Applicant(1) Mrs. Renuka Guled P.I.D. No. 151700601500100273 G.P. No. 849/1 At: Yalavigi Gram Panchayath At: Yalavigi Tq:haveri Dthaveri., Near Main Road Savanur Haveri Karnataka Pin: 581118 P.O. Gramthana Property Bearing VPC No. 849/1, Property No. 151700601500100273, Measuring East To West: 10.30 Mtr And North To South: 8.66 Mtr, Total Measuring 89.20 Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 69.51 Sq Mtr, Situated At Yalavigi Village, Tq: Savanur & Dist: Haveri. East-Property of Paravva Marachappanavar, West-Panchayat Road, South-Property of Pushpa Shivappa Uppar, North-Property of Jarinabegum Sangli	11-10-2025 & Rs.596084/-	27-12-2025
36	Lakshmi Devi E, Chari M R, Manjulamma R, Revana Chari O, /MHL00510025809/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Khatha/Property No. 15, E-Property No. 152400501700100338, Measuring East-West 7.6196 Meter X North-South 24.3828 Meter, Total 185.80 Sq. Meter, Including 76.92 Situated At Mallapura Village, Mallapura Village Panchayath, Shivamogga Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka - 577225. East-Property of Ramu S/O Sadashiva Sheit, West-Property of Indrappa S/O Mallappa, South-Panchayath Road, North-Panchayth Place	11-10-2025 & Rs.619257/-	27-12-2025
37	Neelakanth Huvanna Buddekar, Suma Neelakanth Buddekar, Khobanna Khandekar, /NHL00260029969/ Hubli	Property Is In The Name of Applicant Gp No: 64, P.I.D. No. 152700300400100187, Near Gardamani At: Kawalwad, Tq: Halyal Dist: Uttar Kannada; 581329, Near Gardi Mani Haliyal Uttara Kannada Karnataka Pin: 581329 P.O. Kawalwada Residential Gramthana Property Bearing Vpc No.64, Property No. 152700300400100187, Measuring East To West: 11.90 Mtr And North To South: 4.85 Mtr, Total Measuring 57.72 Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 57.72 Sq Mtr, Situated At Kalavad Village, Tq: Haliyal & Dist: Uttara Kannada. East-Common Wall of Husenbi Abdul Sattar Tambur, West-Common Wall of Kamalavva Satappa Chigalli, South-Panchayat Road, North-Open Property	11-10-2025 & Rs.713761/-	27-12-2025
38	Imamsab Isubsab,Sohail Imamuddin, Kausarbee Imamsab, Gaosoddin Yousuf Miyya, /NLAP0117018336/ Raichur	Property Bearing No Property Bearing No. 1/105 ,P.I.D. No. 150600100300121693, Near Basaveshwara Chowk Khureshi Galli Colony, Villege Kamala Nagar, Tq Aourad, Dist Bidar, Karnataka Pin: 585417 P.O. Kamal Nagar B Class So. E-W: 13.106Ft, N-S: 3.962 Ft Admeasuring: 51.90 Sq Mts. Builduparea: 520 Sq Ft. East-Rashidsab Pashasab House, West-Road, South-Rahimsab Imamsab House, North-Mastan Ismailsab House	11-10-2025 & Rs.480835/-	27-12-2025
39	Lakshmana A J, Anusha M, Sakamma K, /NHL00340024397/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Aralakuppe Gramapanchayathi Property No. 810 And As Per Form No. 9 And 11 A Unique No. 152100601800100918 Situated At Aralakuppe Village, Pandavapura Taluk, Mandya District, Within The'jurisdiction of Aralakuppe Gramapanchayathi Measuring East To West: 12.192 Meters And North to South 9.144 Meters, Totally Measuring 111.48 Square Meters And Building Measuring 27.87 Square Meters Pin 571427, Karnataka. East-Site No. 1, West-Road, South-Canal, North-Site No. 16	11-10-2025 & Rs.519253/-	27-12-2025
40	Gowramma N, Manjunatha N, Swapna M, Narasimha V, /MLAP0129042713/ Kolar	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Municipal Khatha No. 413/A-337/A Sub (Old Municipal Khatha No.337/A) And P.I.D. No. 1-5-626-388 Measuring East To West: 9.144018 Mtrs And North To South: 6.096012 Mtrs Is Situated At Ward No.1, 388 1st Cross Road, 5th Block, Kolara Town, Kolara District Pin: 563101,Karnataka.east-Property Belongs To Yellappa, West-Property Belongs To Muniyappa, South-Property Belongs To Muniyamma, North-Municipal Road	11-10-2025 & Rs.522560/-	27-12-2025

Date: 30th December 2025 | Place: KARNATAKA — **Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd**

QUICK READ

Tarique Rahman Files Nomination for Dhaka Seat

Dhaka

Bangladesh Nationalist Party Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman's nomination papers were filed on Monday for the Dhaka-17 seat in the next national election. Party leaders submitted the papers at the Dhaka Divisional Commissioner's office. The election is due in February 2026. Rahman returned to Bangladesh on December 25 after 17 years in exile. He recently registered as a voter in Dhaka-17 and said he wants to build an inclusive and safe country.

Man Missing After Security Operation

Panjgur

A man has reportedly gone missing after being detained during a security operation in Balochistan's Panjgur district. Local residents said security forces conducted searches and took valuables from homes in Gawargo Fateh Ali. One resident, Naimatullah, was taken into custody and has not been seen since. His family said his name is not in any official records and appealed to authorities for information. Meanwhile, protests over missing persons continue in Quetta.

Sixteen Killed in Manado Nursing Home Fire

Jakarta

At least 16 people were killed after a fire broke out at a nursing home in Manado, the capital of Indonesia's North Sulawesi province, on Sunday. The fire started around 8:36 pm at the Panti Werdha Damai nursing home and was brought under control within an hour. Police said victim identification is underway at a local hospital. Survivors were shifted to nearby hospitals, while authorities have begun an investigation to find the cause of the blaze.

Zelenskyy details Trump's 20 point peace plan

Ukraine's leader shared details of talks with Donald Trump, pushing for lasting security guarantees for Ukraine

WASHINGTON

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Monday that United States President Donald Trump briefed him on a twenty-point peace proposal discussed earlier with Russian President Vladimir Putin. He spoke after meeting Trump at the Mar-a-Lago Club in Palm Beach, Florida, on Sunday, December twenty-eight, where both leaders talked about ways to end the war that began with Russia's full-scale invasion and is nearing four years.

Zelenskyy said he asked for firm security guarantees lasting fifty years and stressed that any talks with Moscow would happen only after Trump and European leaders agreed on clear written commitments. Trump said he also held a long phone call with Putin, describing it as productive and friendly, as the conflict approaches its fourth anniversary on February twenty-four.

Zelenskyy said Ukraine wants national security advisers from Ukraine, the United States and Europe to meet soon to shape the plan and timelines. He added that guarantees should begin the moment a final agreement is signed by all sides. He said the plan should carry signatures from Ukraine, the United States, Russia and Europe, and may need a technical group to manage steps and checks.

Zelenskyy said Ukraine is open to talks with Russia and suggested a national referendum after a ceasefire of at least sixty days. He said monitoring rules would be part of the guarantees, and talks would also cover plans for a free economic zone in the Donbas region.

Speaking later, Trump called Zelenskyy brave and said Putin wants the war to end, adding he prefers a deal without travel, while saying peace efforts must move fast and carefully. Officials said more details are expected soon as talks continue amid heavy fighting and humanitarian pressure across eastern Ukraine.

PTI Insists On Protests Before Any Talks

LAHORE

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf will not hold talks with the government without first launching street protests, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi said on Monday. He made the statement after spending three days in Lahore mobilising party workers amid internal divisions within PTI.

Afridi said sections of the party were pushing for dialogue, while others were following jailed founder Imran Khan's call for street agitation. He said he had been tasked with leading the protest movement and arrived in Lahore with ministers and lawmakers to begin the campaign.

Afridi said talks without resistance would weaken the party's position. He said protests would continue until the government recognised the opposition as an equal partner. Responding to criticism over past protests, he said PTI would focus on practical action instead of big claims.

Afridi questioned the government's offer of dialogue, saying real talks were possible only if people with actual power were involved. He said he could not align with the establishment due to policy differences and claimed the current rulers had failed to take Pakistan forward.

He accused the ruling parties of corruption and poor economic management, adding that protests would not be limited to Islamabad or fixed timelines. He also announced plans to take the movement to Karachi.

PTI Secretary General Salman Akram Raja said dialogue could begin only after agreement on basic principles. He said the government wanted PTI to stay silent on alleged election fraud, Imran Khan's detention, and institutional interference. After the media talk, Afridi was stopped from entering Lahore cantonment, where he planned to meet families of jailed party leaders.

KP Chief Minister Sohail Afridi says PTI will continue street protests and reject dialogue until the government accepts opposition demands and authority.

Russian Strikes Kill One In Donetsk Amid Peace Talks

KYIV

Fresh Russian shelling hit eastern Ukraine overnight as diplomatic talks continued between United States and Ukrainian leaders.

Ukrainian officials said on Monday that Russian forces carried out overnight attacks on Kyiv-controlled areas of the Donetsk region, killing one civilian and injuring five others. The strikes hit several districts across eastern Ukraine despite ongoing diplomatic efforts to end the war.

According to the Donetsk Regional State Administration, Russian troops launched seven shelling attacks on settlements in the region. In the Pokrovsk district, five homes were destroyed in the Shakhivska community, including three houses in Kucherev Yar and two in Gruzky.

In the Kramatorsk district, one person was injured in Lyman. In the Starodubivka community of Mykolaiv, one house was destroyed and nine others were damaged. Authorities said damage was also reported in nearby residential areas.

The worst impact was seen in Sloviansk, where one civilian was killed and four others were injured. Two private houses were completely destroyed, while forty-two other homes and four vehicles suffered damage. In the Bakhmut district, at least two houses were damaged in Riznykivka village of the Siversk community.

Officials said 108 civilians were evacuated from frontline areas during the day, including eighteen children, as fighting continued near populated zones.

The attacks came as international focus remained on peace talks in the United States. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy met US President Donald Trump at Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida on Sunday. The leaders discussed a proposed twenty-point peace plan, security guarantees, and possible steps to end the conflict.

Before meeting Zelenskyy, Trump also spoke by phone with Russian President Vladimir Putin, calling the conversation productive. Trump later told reporters he has set no deadline for a peace deal, saying his only goal is to stop the war.

Trump added that discussions with Ukraine, Russia, and European leaders were making progress. He said the talks were bringing the sides closer to ending what he described as one of Europe's deadliest conflicts since World War Two.

Ex Home Minister Faces Probe Over Gen Z Protests

KATHMANDU

Former Nepal home minister Ramesh Lekhak appeared before a high level inquiry commission on Monday to give his statement on alleged atrocities during the Gen Z protests held in September.

Lekhak was serving as home minister during the protests, which erupted on September eight and nine, when young people took to the streets against government mismanagement and rising corruption.

The demonstrations later turned violent, leaving seventy seven people dead and many others injured, according to official records.

The high level commission, headed by former judge Gauri Bahadur Karki, is examining whether excessive force was authorised by senior officials at the time. Lekhak arrived at the commission's office on Monday afternoon after being formally summoned as part of the final stage of the investigation.

The panel, which has received a one month extension, is also preparing to question former prime minister KP Sharma Oli next week.

Investigators have already recorded statements from senior security and administrative officials, including former chief secretary Eknarayan Aryal, former home secretary Gokarna Mani Duwadi, army chief Ashokraj Sigdel, and police chief Chandra Kuber Khapung.

Earlier, a government assessment confirmed that seventy seven people were killed during the protests, while two thousand four hundred twenty nine were injured.

Among the injured, seventeen were children under thirteen, and one thousand four hundred thirty three were aged between thirteen and twenty eight. The report estimated total physical damage at eighty four point four five billion rupees, affecting thousands of buildings, vehicles, public offices, and private property across the country. Officials said findings will guide accountability measures and legal action in the coming weeks after the report is finalised.

AIMJ Chief Urges Muslims To Avoid New Year Celebrations

BAREILLY

Maulana Mufti Shahabuddin Razvi Barelvi, President of the All India Muslim Jamaat (AIMJ), has urged Muslims in India to avoid celebrating the New Year, citing Islamic law. Razvi said activities like singing, dancing, alcohol consumption, and other festive behaviors on December 31 are haram, or forbidden, under Sharia, the Islamic legal and moral code. He explained that New Year celebrations often involve chaos, misbehavior, and immoral acts, which are prohibited for Muslims.

KP Governor Calls For Support To Military Operations

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi has urged the provincial government to fully support military operations to deal with rising militancy and worsening security in the region, he said development projects cannot move forward without peace and stability. The governor said insecurity has damaged the social and economic life of the people and warned that business and investment cannot grow in an unsafe environment. He stressed that lasting peace is essential for progress in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Jamaat-i-Islami Criticises PIA Privatisation

KARACHI

Jamaat-i-Islami leader Hafiz Naeemur Rehman on Monday criticised the government's decision to privatise Pakistan International Airlines, calling the move a grave mistake, he said PIA was a strategic national asset and a symbol of national pride that should not have been sold.

He said PIA did not become unprofitable on its own. According to him, successive governments including PML-N, PPP, PML-Q and PTI were responsible for its decline over the past three to four decades. He alleged that corruption, political appointments, poor oversight and mismanagement weakened the airline badly.

Rehman said some military officials appointed to run the airline also failed to improve its performance. He argued that instead of fixing responsibility and punishing those involved, the government chose to sell the airline.

He said PIA was split into two entities before privatisation, with most losses shifted to PIA Holdings. The remaining airline later showed a profit of about ten billion rupees between January and June, he added.

The JI leader questioned the sale price, saying a single

used Airbus A320 costs nearly ten billion rupees, yet the entire airline was sold for a similar amount. He said claims of one hundred thirty five billion rupees were misleading, as most of it was meant for private reinvestment.

Rehman said PIA owns seventy eight international landing rights, including in Europe, and its value was far higher than the sale price. He questioned the role of the Fauji Foundation, asking whether privatisation was real.

TAIWAN DRILLS

China Launches Justice Mission Drills Around Taiwan

BEIJING

China on Monday launched large-scale joint military drills around Taiwan, asserting its claim over the island, which it calls an inseparable part of its territory.

The exercise, named Justice Mission 2025, is being carried out by the People's Liberation Army's Eastern Theatre Command and involves ground, air, naval, missile, and support units.

Military officials said the drills include air and sea patrols, simulated strikes, port blockades, and deterrence operations in nearby areas.

Aircraft and warships are moving around Taiwan from multiple directions, while forces practice rapid deployment and joint attacks.

China said the exercise is a warning against Taiwan independence movements and what it calls foreign interference.

The command also released a poster titled "Shield of Justice, Smashing Illusion".

Fighter jets, bombers, drones, and long-range rocket units are testing precision strike abilities against mobile targets. Beijing said the drills aim to protect sovereignty and national unity.

The move follows a recent United States decision to approve an arms package for Taiwan. Washington said the proposed sales are worth about 11.1 billion dollars and include missiles, howitzers, and drones. China condemned the deal, saying it violates the one-China principle.

Beijing has announced sanctions on United States defence companies and executives linked to arms supplies.

The foreign ministry said the measures take effect immediately.

Taiwan criticised the drills as an irrational provocation that harms regional peace.

Its defence ministry said forces are on high alert and conducting response exercises to protect the island and its people from any threat or pressure.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

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2	9	3	7	5	4	6	8	1
7	3	4	9	1	5	8	2	6
8	5	9	3	2	6	1	4	7
6	2	1	4	8	7	5	3	9

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

Fill a 9×9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3×3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

QUICK READ

Timex Group India shares slide nearly 10 pc

Mumbai

Shares of Timex Group India fell sharply in early trade on Monday, after the company's promoter launched a two-day offer for sale (OFS) at a steep discount. The stock dropped nearly 10 per cent in the morning session reflecting selling pressure triggered by the OFS announcement. The share price of Timex Group India slipped as much as 9.6 per cent to an intra-day low of Rs 318. The decline came after the promoter fixed the OFS floor price at a significant discount to the stock's previous closing level.

India poised to become 3rd-largest economy by 2030

New Delhi

With GDP valued at $4.18 trillion, India has surpassed Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy and is poised to displace Germany from the third rank in the next 2.5 to 3 years with projected GDP of $7.3 trillion by 2030, an official statement said on Monday. The growth momentum further surprised on the upside, with GDP expanding to a six-quarter high in Q2 of 2025-26, reflecting India's resilience amid persistent global trade uncertainties. Domestic drivers-led by robust private consumption-played a central role in supporting this expansion, according to the statement.

Silver rally reflects physical supply deficit

New Delhi

The silver market underwent a decisive structural shift in 2025, driven by prolonged physical supply deficits, inventory depletion and policy led supply constraints, a report said on Monday. The report from Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd predicted that silver would touch Rs 2,46,000 per kg in the domestic market. The brokerage continues to maintain a buy-on-dips approach with a staggered investment strategy. While the initial target of $75 on COMEX has been achieved, the firm reiterates its target of $77 on COMEX, equivalent to Rs 2,46,000 on the domestic market, with further revisions dependent on evolving market conditions, the report said.

Coffee Day Enterprises to settle ₹70 cr loan with Axis Bank

Coffee Day Enterprises Ltd informed stock exchanges that Axis Bank has approved a One-Time Settlement (OTS) of the company's outstanding loan

NEW DELHI

Coffee Day Enterprises, the parent company of Cafe Coffee Day, is set to settle its outstanding debt with Axis Bank, as the private sector lender has approved a one-time settlement of Rs 70 crore.

"Axis Bank Ltd approved for One Time Settlement of the outstanding loan with the company for Rs 70 crore," said Coffee Day Enterprises Ltd (CDEL) in a regulatory filing.

As per the one-time settlement, CDEL will pay the entire amount by September 30, 2026. The shares of this small-cap company majorly engaged in retail operations from the sale of coffee beans and other related products and services in respect of coffee vending machines, jumped upto 11 percent after Axis bank agreeing for OTS for its debts.

With the market capitalization of Rs. 771 Crores, the shares of Coffee Day Enterprises has reached an intraday high of Rs. 38.98 per share, rising nearly 11 percent from its previous day close of Rs. 35.3 per share.

Coffee Day Enterprises Ltd informed stock exchanges that Axis Bank has approved a One-Time Settlement (OTS) of the company's outstanding loan. As per the disclosure, the total settlement amount is Rs. 70 crore, which will be paid in instalments Rs.35 crore by December 31, 2025, followed by payments of Rs. 15 crore by March 2026, Rs. 10 crore by June 2026 and Rs. 10 crore by September 2026.

The company stated that the settlement has been undertaken to reduce its debt liability, and once the agreed amount is paid, it will be treated as a full and final settlement of all dues related to the loan.

Along with this, the subsidiary firm Coffee Day Global Limited and Rare Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, approved for a one-time settlement of Rs. 40 Crores payable in two tranches for outstanding loans assigned by Karnataka Bank Limited, RBL Bank Ltd and Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited.

Here, Rs. 25 Crores are payable immediately upon acceptance of the OTS, proposed to be funded through the sale of mortgaged land and the remaining Rs. 15 Crores are payable within one Year from the acceptance of the OTS

Coffee Day Enterprises is popularly known as parent company of cafe Coffee Day which is primarily into operating and managing a network of coffee cafes across India under the brand Café Coffee Day.

Government Awards GATC Certificates to Private Entities

NEW DELHI

India's consumer protection regime took a major leap as private entities were formally inducted into legal metrology verification ecosystem.

The Union Government on Monday announced a significant milestone in reforming India's legal metrology system, with the Department of Consumer Affairs awarding 12 Government Approved Test Centre (GATC) certificates to 11 private entities. The move is aimed at strengthening the country's verification ecosystem for weights and measures through a structured public–private partnership framework, thereby enhancing accuracy, efficiency, and consumer trust in trade transactions.

According to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, this initiative marks a transformative shift by expanding verification capacity beyond the public sector and enabling greater participation of technically qualified private laboratories and industries. The reform is expected to improve regulatory efficiency, promote ease of doing business, and ensure higher reliability in weights and measures used across markets.

The GATC certificates were formally presented by Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, in the presence of B. L. Verma, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs. Officials highlighted that the step reflects the government's commitment to modernising regulatory frameworks in line with international best practices.

The recognition of private entities as GATCs follows the amendment of the Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2013, which was notified on October 23, 2025. Under the amended rules, the scope of GATCs has been significantly expanded, allowing eligible private entities that meet prescribed technical and infrastructural criteria to undertake verification and re-verification of weighing and measuring instruments.

The ministry noted that the updated framework now covers 18 categories of weighing and measuring instruments. This expansion reflects the government's intent to address evolving technological and sectoral needs across critical domains such as healthcare, transport, energy, infrastructure, and consumer services. By decentralising verification services, the reform is expected to reduce turnaround time and enable faster compliance for manufacturers, traders, and service providers nationwide.

India's railway stocks staged a sharp recovery this week, adding significant market value after months of sustained weakness

Railway Stocks Rebound as Investor Interest Returns

MUMBAI

India's railway-linked stocks are showing renewed strength after a prolonged period of underperformance, with the sector witnessing a sharp rally over the past five trading sessions. The rebound has added more than ₹66,500 crore to the combined market capitalisation of railway-related companies, signalling a cautious return of investor confidence ahead of the Union Budget and amid improving revenue visibility.

Railway stocks had remained under pressure for most of 2025 after the sector peaked in July 2024. Elevated valuations, coupled with moderation in policy expectations, triggered sharp corrections across counters. However, the latest upswing suggests that investors are gradually repositioning, driven by a combination of fare revisions, budget-related optimism and company-specific triggers.

The rally has been led by Jupiter Wagons, whose shares surged nearly 37 per cent in just five sessions, making it the top performer in the current recovery phase. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited gained around 27 per cent, while Indian Railway Finance Corporation advanced more than 20 per cent over the same period.

Other railway-related stocks also posted strong double-digit gains. These include Ircon International, Titagarh Rail Systems, RailTel Corporation of India, Texmaco Rail & Engineering, RITES and BEML. The broad-based nature of the rally indicates sector-wide buying interest rather than isolated stock-specific moves.

Despite the sharp rebound, analysts note that most railway stocks continue to trade well below their previous highs, suggesting room for further recovery if earnings momentum and policy support remain favourable. Valuations, which had cooled significantly during the correction phase, are now seen as relatively more attractive by market participants.

One of the key triggers behind the rally has been Indian Railways' decision to revise passenger fares from December 26. This marked the second fare hike in FY26, with long-distance travel fares raised by 1 to 2 paise per kilometre across ordinary, Mail and Express trains. Suburban services, however, were excluded from the revision.

Musk warns on silver rally flagging demand for industrial use

NEW DELHI

Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk has warned that the runaway silver rally is worrying because of its need in many industrial processes. This is not good. Silver is needed in many industrial processes, Musk, recently posted on social media platform X.

Reactions on social media ranged from alarm to caution, with users saying Musk's concern signalled the rally's excesses. I tried to warn you all. You know it is bad when Elon musk is worried about silver price soaring into oblivion, a user post. The rally of silver has been surprising to many users as the white metal is hovering around $79 an ounce and eclipsed Nvidia in implied market value on Monday.

The usage of silver in electric vehicles could be of concern for Musk, who runs EV maker Tesla. Silver prices in global markets retreated sharply after touching fresh intraday records of $84 per ounce in the spot market. The white metal slipped as much as 8 per cent from its peak due to strong profit booking, snapping what could have been a seventh consecutive day of gains. March silver futures on MCX are trading up 4.22 per cent intraday as of 10.10 am, at 2,49,282 per kilogram. Analysts noted that silver's surge has outpaced most assets, including gold and major stocks, due to speculative inflows, supply deficits and surging industrial demand. They noted that silver does not have notable reserves like gold as the London gold market is underpinned by around $700 billion of bullion that can be lent out in the event of a liquidity squeeze.

India's petrochemical demand to remain robust in medium term

NEW DELHI

India's petrochemical consumption growth is expected to remain robust at 6–7 per cent per annum in the medium term, driven by sustained economic expansion and rising demand for downstream products, according to a report released on Monday. The outlook underscores the sector's critical role in supporting India's manufacturing ecosystem and its broader transition toward a more consumption-driven economy.

The report highlighted that petrochemicals form the backbone of several industries, including packaging, textiles, automotive, construction, electronics and consumer goods. With India's economy continuing to expand and urbanisation gaining momentum, demand for petrochemical-derived products such as plastics, polymers, synthetic fibres and specialty chemicals is projected to rise steadily over the coming years.

One of the key drivers of growth is the increasing consumption of packaged food, personal care products and pharmaceuticals, all of which rely heavily on petrochemical inputs. Additionally, infrastructure development and housing activity are expected to boost demand for materials like pipes, insulation, paints and coatings, further supporting petrochemical usage. The expansion of the automotive sector, particularly electric vehicles, is also contributing to higher demand for lightweight plastic components and advanced polymer materials.

The report noted that India's per capita petrochemical consumption remains significantly lower than that of developed economies and even some emerging markets. This gap indicates substantial headroom for growth as incomes rise and consumption patterns evolve.

Adani lines up ₹1.8 lakh cr defence push to power

CHENNAI

The Adani Group has on Monday announced an ambitious plan to invest Rs 1.8 lakh crore in India's defence manufacturing sector in the coming year, a move aimed at significantly boosting indigenous military capabilities. The investment, to be made primarily by Adani Defence & Aerospace, is being positioned as a strategic effort to support the country's future warfare needs by expanding the domestic defence industrial base, reports PTI.

The company's growth in the sector follows a transition from lengthy planning cycles to faster deployment, with some of its military hardware already being fielded in operations. The planned expenditure will focus on developing unmanned and autonomous systems, advanced guided weapons, sensors and electronics, and artificial intelligence-enabled multi-domain operational technologies.

India's hospital sector revenue to grow up to 20 pc

NEW DELHI

The business outlook for the Indian hospital industry remains positive, with its revenue expected to grow 18-20 per cent in FY2027, a report said on Monday. According to the report by credit rating agency ICRA, the sector's growth, based on a sample set of 11 leading listed hospital companies, is supported by sustained high occupancy and healthy average revenue per occupied bed (ARPOB).

In FY2026, the Indian hospital sector grew 16-18 per cent, reflecting expectations of continued robust operating metrics on the back of strong structural tailwinds. The performance of the Indian hospital industry is expected to remain strong in FY2026 on the back of healthy occupancy and ARPOB, said Mythri Macherla, Vice President and Sector Head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA. ICRA expects occupancy of its sample set companies to remain robust at 62-64 per cent in FY2026 (63.5 per cent in FY2025), while the ARPOB is expected to expand by 6-8 per cent, she added. This follows a strong first half, where the sample set witnessed a 16 per cent year-on-year revenue growth in H1 FY2026, supported by occupancy of 63.3 per cent and a 7.8 per cent increase in ARPOB, the report said.

SOUTH KOREA IPOS

South Korea's IPO Proceeds Rise Nearly 15% in 2025

SEOUL

The total proceeds raised through initial public offerings (IPOs) in South Korea increased by 14.9 per cent in 2025 compared with the previous year, reflecting improved market liquidity and sustained investor interest, according to data released on Monday. The development underscores a gradual revival in the country's primary market activity despite regulatory tightening aimed at enhancing long-term market stability.

Data compiled by consulting service provider IR Kudos Corp showed that IPO proceeds reached 4.57 trillion won (approximately US$3.19 billion) in 2025, up from 3.97 trillion won raised in 2024. A total of 77 companies debuted on South Korea's main bourse KOSPI and the tech-heavy KOSDAQ markets during the year, marginally lower than the 78 listings recorded a year earlier.

Among the year's listings, LG CNS Co., the information technology services arm of LG Electronics Inc., emerged as the largest fundraiser, raising 1.19 trillion won through its IPO. It was followed by DH Shipbuilding Co., which secured 500 billion won from the market. Analysts noted that these large-scale listings significantly contributed to the overall rise in IPO proceeds, even as the number of new listings remained broadly stable.

IR Kudos Corp said in a statement that the momentum for large IPOs is expected to remain strong next year amid abundant liquidity conditions, although evolving regulatory requirements could influence investor behaviour. Starting next year, more than 40 per cent of IPO shares will be allocated to institutional investors who commit to holding the shares for a specified period, compared with the current 20 per cent allocation. This policy shift is aimed at curbing short-term speculative trading.

The move follows criticism that some institutional investors have been booking quick profits by selling IPO shares on the first day of trading, contributing to volatility and eroding confidence among retail investors. By encouraging longer holding periods, regulators hope to promote price stability and long-term value creation.

Meanwhile, Korea Exchange, the country's sole bourse operator, announced plans to introduce stricter rules governing IPO eligibility and delisting procedures.

WINTER FOG: Understanding the Dangers and Staying Safe on the Roads

Every winter, a silent danger descends upon roads and highways across the world. It arrives without warning, transforming familiar routes into treacherous corridors of uncertainty. This danger is fog, and while it may appear ethereal and beautiful from a distance, it becomes one of the most hazardous weather conditions for motorists and pedestrians alike. Dense fog reduces visibility to mere feet, creates optical illusions, and has been responsible for some of the most devastating multi-vehicle accidents in transportation history. Understanding the nature of winter fog and learning how to navigate it safely can mean the difference between arriving home safely and becoming another tragic statistic.

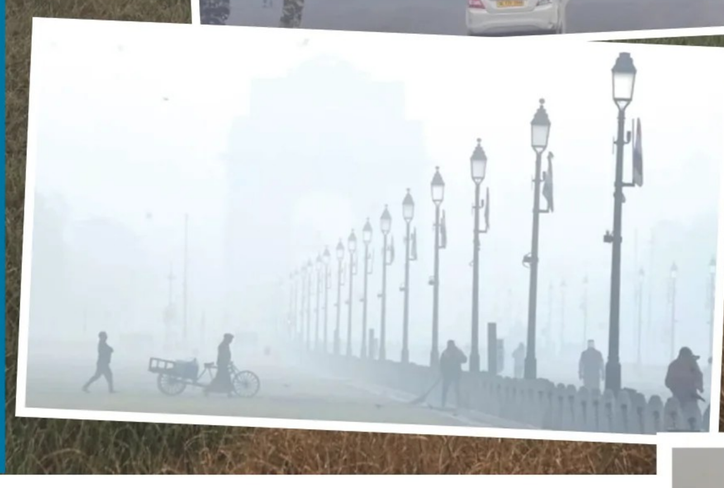
The Science Behind WINTER FOG

Winter fog forms under specific atmospheric conditions that are particularly common during the colder months. When the air temperature drops near or below the dew point, water vapor in the atmosphere condenses into tiny water droplets that remain suspended in the air, creating the cloudy appearance we recognize as fog. During winter, several factors contribute to particularly dense and persistent fog formation.

Radiation fog, one of the most common types in winter, develops on clear, calm nights when the ground loses heat rapidly through radiation. As the earth's surface cools, it chills the air directly above it. If this air contains sufficient moisture and cools to its dew point, fog forms. This type of fog is especially thick in valleys and low-lying areas where cold air settles and accumulates. It typically develops after sunset and can persist well into the morning, coinciding perfectly with rush hour traffic.

Advection fog occurs when warm, moist air moves over a cold surface, such as snow-covered ground or frozen bodies of water. The temperature difference causes the moisture in the air to condense. This type of fog can be particularly persistent and widespread, sometimes lasting for days under the right conditions. In regions near large bodies of water or in areas with significant snow cover, advection fog creates hazardous driving conditions that can affect entire metropolitan areas simultaneously.

Steam fog, though less common, appears when cold air moves over relatively warmer water. This creates the dramatic effect of fog rising from the water's surface like steam. While visually striking, it can create dangerous conditions near rivers, lakes, and coastal areas.



The Hidden Dangers of Fog-Related Accidents

The statistics surrounding fog-related accidents are sobering. According to traffic safety data, fog is a contributing factor in thousands of accidents annually, many of them involving multiple vehicles and resulting in serious injuries or fatalities. What makes fog particularly dangerous is not just the reduced visibility, but the human psychology and decision-making that accompanies it.

When visibility drops below 100 feet, as it often does in dense fog, drivers lose the ability to perceive distance accurately. The fog creates a white-out effect that eliminates depth perception and makes it nearly impossible to judge the speed and position of other vehicles. Tail lights appear suddenly, seemingly out of nowhere, giving drivers mere seconds to react. This compressed reaction time is the primary cause of the chain-reaction pile-ups that characterize major fog-related accidents.

One of the most infamous examples occurred in December 1990 on Interstate 75 in Tennessee, where dense fog contributed to a series of collisions involving 99 vehicles. The accident resulted in 12 deaths and 42 injuries, demonstrating how quickly a fog situation can escalate into tragedy. Similar incidents occur with disturbing regularity on highways around the world, particularly during winter months when fog is most prevalent and drivers may also be contending with icy roads.

The psychological aspect of driving in fog adds another layer of danger. Many drivers experience a phenomenon called velocitization, where they unconsciously increase their speed because the lack of visual reference points makes them feel like they're moving slower than they actually are.

Others experience anxiety and panic, leading to sudden braking or erratic movements that catch following drivers off guard. Some motorists pull over but leave their vehicles partially on the roadway, creating stationary obstacles that other drivers cannot see until it's too late.

Fog also affects pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists disproportionately. These vulnerable road users are harder to see in the best of conditions, and fog makes them nearly invisible. Pedestrians crossing streets in foggy conditions may not be visible to drivers until they're within striking distance, while cyclists and motorcyclists lack the bright tail lights and larger profiles of passenger vehicles.

Essential Safety Measures for Driving in Dense Fog

Surviving a drive through dense fog requires a combination of proper vehicle preparation, defensive driving techniques, and the wisdom to know when not to drive at all. The single most important decision you can make is whether to travel. If fog is severe and your journey is not essential, postponing travel is always the safest option. No appointment, event, or convenience is worth risking your life or the lives of others.

However, if you must drive in foggy conditions, or if you encounter fog during your journey, implementing the following safety measures can significantly reduce your risk of an accident.

Slow Down Significantly: Speed is the enemy in fog. Reduce your speed well below the posted limit, adjusting it according to visibility. A useful rule of thumb is that you should be able to stop within the distance you can see clearly. If you can only see 50 feet ahead, you should be traveling at a speed that allows you to stop within 50 feet. This typically means speeds of 20-30 mph or less in dense fog, regardless of what the speed limit sign says.

Use Your Low-Beam Headlights: This is perhaps the most misunderstood aspect of fog safety. Many drivers instinctively turn on their high-beam headlights in fog, thinking more light will help them see better. This is dangerously wrong. High beams reflect off the water droplets in fog, creating a glare that actually reduces visibility. Low-beam headlights aimed downward provide better illumination of the road immediately in front of you and make your vehicle more visible to others. If your vehicle has fog lights, use them in conjunction with low beams.

Never Use Hazard Lights While Moving: While it might seem logical to use your hazard lights to increase visibility, doing so is dangerous and illegal in most jurisdictions while a vehicle is in motion. Hazard lights prevent you from signaling turns or lane changes, and they can confuse other drivers about your intentions. Save hazard lights for when you're stopped and pulled completely off the road.

Increase Following Distance Dramatically: In clear conditions, maintaining a three-second following distance is recommended. In fog, this should be increased to at least eight to ten seconds or more. Remember, you need time to perceive a hazard, react to it, and bring your vehicle to a stop. When visibility is compromised, you need exponentially more distance to accomplish this safely.

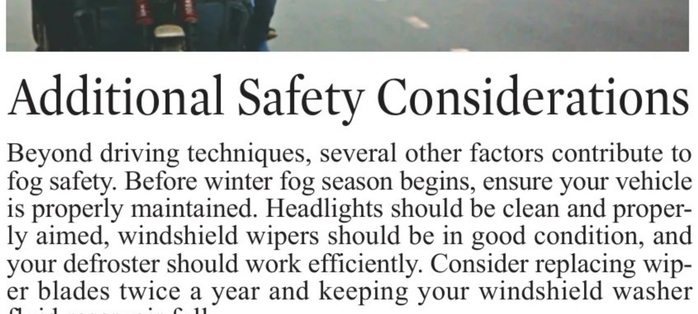
Use the Right Edge of the Road as a Guide: Rather than following the tail lights of the car ahead, which can lead you into a collision if that driver stops suddenly or makes an error, use the painted edge line or roadside markers as your guide. This helps you maintain proper lane position without fixating on other vehicles.

Avoid Passing: Resist any temptation to pass other vehicles in foggy conditions. Passing requires excellent visibility and predictability, neither of which exists in fog. Even if another driver is moving frustratingly slowly, stay behind them at a safe distance.

Be Prepared to Stop: Keep your foot covering the brake pedal without pressing it, a technique called covering the brake. This shaves precious fractions of a second off your reaction time. Also, be aware of your surroundings and identify escape routes, such as a shoulder where you could steer if traffic ahead stops suddenly.

If You Must Pull Over, Get Completely Off the Road: If conditions become too dangerous to continue, or if you need to stop for any reason, pull as far off the roadway as possible, ideally beyond the shoulder into a parking area. Turn off all lights except your hazard flashers to avoid attracting other vehicles toward your position. If possible, exit the vehicle and move far away from the roadway, as parked cars are frequent collision targets in heavy fog.

Use Windshield Defrosters: Fog inside your vehicle compounds the visibility problem. Use your defroster and air conditioning to keep your windshield clear.



Additional Safety Considerations

Beyond driving techniques, several other factors contribute to fog safety. Before winter fog season begins, ensure your vehicle is properly maintained. Headlights should be clean and properly aimed, windshield wipers should be in good condition, and your defroster should work efficiently. Consider replacing wiper blades twice a year and keeping your windshield washer fluid reservoir full.

Stay informed about weather conditions before traveling. Many weather apps and services provide fog forecasts and warnings. Highway departments in fog-prone areas often have warning systems and changeable message signs that alert drivers to hazardous conditions ahead. Pay attention to these warnings and be prepared to adjust your plans accordingly.

The Importance of Patience and Perspective

Perhaps the most challenging aspect of fog safety is the psychological component. Modern life conditions us to expect speed and efficiency. We calculate our travel times precisely, and we become frustrated when circumstances slow us down. Fog demands that we abandon these expectations and embrace patience.

When visibility drops and you find yourself crawling along at a fraction of normal highway speed, remember that arriving late is infinitely preferable to not arriving at all. The frustration you feel in the moment is nothing compared to the lasting consequences of a fog-related accident. Give yourself extra time when fog is forecasted, communicate with those expecting you that you may be delayed, and approach the situation with the understanding that safety trumps all other considerations.

Dense winter fog transforms the everyday act of driving into a potentially deadly endeavor. The ethereal beauty of fog-shrouded landscapes belies the very real dangers it presents to motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists. By understanding how fog forms, recognizing its dangers, and implementing proven safety measures, we can dramatically reduce the risk of fog-related accidents.

The key principles are simple but require discipline to follow: reduce speed dramatically, use low-beam headlights, increase following distance, stay alert, and be willing to delay or cancel travel when conditions are severe. These measures, combined with proper vehicle maintenance and awareness of weather conditions, create multiple layers of protection against one of winter's most persistent hazards.

As winter approaches and fog begins to settle over our roads and highways, remember that the choices you make in those low-visibility conditions echo far beyond the duration of your drive. They determine whether families remain whole, whether parents return home to their children, and whether the statistics of fog-related accidents increase or decrease. Drive with wisdom, patience, and caution, and encourage others to do the same. In the fog, visibility may be limited, but our commitment to safety should be crystal clear.

McDonald Defends MCG Curator amid Pitch Controversy

Australia coach urges patience, backs traditional pitch preparation

MELBOURNE

Australia head coach Andrew McDonald has come out strongly in defence of Melbourne Cricket Ground curator Matt Page, who has faced intense criticism following the dramatic conclusion of the fourth Ashes Test against England. The match ended inside two days, with England clinching a four-wicket victory on a surface that offered significant assistance to fast bowlers.

Page and his ground staff were targeted after leaving around 10 millimetres of grass on the wicket, which produced pronounced seam movement and bounce. Batting proved extremely challenging for both sides, contributing to the unusually short Test and sparking debate over pitch standards at

Australia's most iconic venue.

The early finish has also had financial repercussions. Cricket Australia is estimated to have suffered a revenue loss of about Aus$10 million (US$6.7 million), as tickets for days three, four and five had to be refunded. The incident has prompted calls from some quarters for greater oversight of pitch preparation.

McDonald, however, urged restraint, praising Page's long-term work and warning against administrative interference. He said the curator had done an "outstanding" job over many years and argued that Australia's batsmen must also take responsibility for their lack of runs.

"We have bad Test matches as well — this Test we weren't at our best," McDonald said. "Sometimes these things can happen. We support him in what he's done and are really proud of the evolution of the MCG. He's found a nice balance for a long period of time."

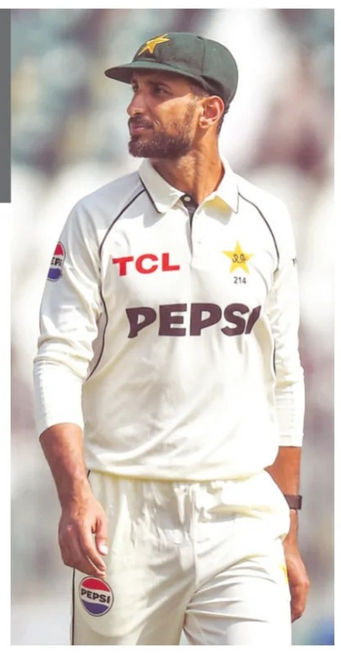
The pitch is still under scrutiny, with ICC match referee Jeff Crowe yet to submit his official report. An "unsatisfactory" rating would result in a demerit point for the venue.

While Cricket Australia will conduct its own end-of-season review, McDonald reiterated his opposition to tailoring surfaces for commercial reasons, stressing that Australian curators have traditionally operated independently of captains and administrators.

Shan Masood Smashes Fastest First-Class Double Century

KARACHI

Pakistan Test captain rewrites domestic record books with breathtaking President's Cup innings



Pakistan Test captain Shan Masood etched his name into the record books by scoring the fastest double century by a Pakistani batter in first-class cricket, surpassing a milestone that had stood for more than three decades. Masood reached the landmark in just 177 balls while representing Sui Northern Gas against Sahar Associates in the President's Cup departmental tournament.

The 36-year-old left-hander remained unbeaten on 212 from 185 deliveries at the close of play on day one, producing a dominant display of stroke-making that left bowlers with little answer. His innings broke the previous Pakistani record held by batting great Inzamam-ul-Haq, who had scored a double hundred off 188 balls during a tour match in England in 1992.

Masood's knock was marked by controlled aggression and relentless scoring, as he combined classical shot selection with modern-day tempo. Batting conditions may have been favourable, but the authority and pace of his innings underlined his rich form and experience at the top level.

While Masood now holds the national record, the overall benchmark for the fastest double century by a visiting batter in first-class cricket remains with India's Virender Sehwag, who reached the mark in 182 balls during the Lahore Test in 2006.

The record-breaking effort comes at a significant stage in Masood's career. Earlier this year, he reportedly declined an offer from the Pakistan Cricket Board to take up a full-time role as Director of International Cricket and Players Relations. The PCB had been keen for Masood to transition into administration after appointing him as a consultant, but the opener chose to focus on his playing career and Pakistan's campaign in the World Test Championship.

Masood's latest innings reinforces that decision, highlighting his continued hunger for runs and leadership by example in domestic cricket.

Gus Atkinson Ruled Out of Final Ashes Test as England's Injury Woes Deepen

SYDNEY

England's fast-bowling resources have taken another blow with Gus Atkinson ruled out of the fifth and final Ashes Test in Sydney after suffering a hamstring injury. The setback adds to England's growing list of pace casualties in a series already marked by fitness concerns.

Atkinson pulled up while bowling on the second morning of the Boxing Day Test in Melbourne. Subsequent scans conducted on Monday confirmed a hamstring injury in his left leg, forcing England's team management to sideline the seamer for the remainder of the series.

The injury compounds England's problems, with express quicks Mark Wood and Jofra Archer already ruled out. Wood was sidelined earlier with a knee issue, while Archer suffered a side strain, significantly depleting En-

gland's original pace plans for the tour. As a result, 27-year-old Matthew Potts is expected to be drafted into the XI for the Sydney Test starting January 4, alongside Brydon Carse and Josh Tongue.

Carse now stands as the only fast bowler remaining from the quartet that began the series in Perth, where England entered the Ashes confident their pace attack could unsettle Australia's batting. Instead, England lost the series inside 11 days following two heavy eight-wicket defeats.

Atkinson featured in those losses in Perth and Adelaide before being dropped for Tongue for the third Test in Adelaide. He was later recalled to replace the injured Archer for the Boxing Day Test, which England won to snap a 14-year winless streak in Australia. Across his appearances, Atkinson finished the series with six wickets at an average of 47.33.

England captain Ben Stokes and spin-bowling allrounder Will Jacks remain available as additional bowling options, while specialist spinner Shoaib Bashir, yet to feature in the series, is also in contention as England look to piece together a balanced attack for the final Test.

Doping Scandals Jeopardize India's 2036 Olympic Bid

BENGALURU

India's bid to host the 2036 Olympics faces credibility challenges due to persistent doping violations. In 2024, WADA again ranked India among the worst offenders, with high positivity rates across athletics, wrestling and weightlifting. Although officials report improvement in 2025 and expanded testing and education, concerns remain over grassroots doping, minors testing positive, weak domestic oversight and easy access to banned substances. Experts warn that without stronger governance, faster sanctions and broader education, India's Olympic ambitions may lose global trust.

Tamiri Seals Memorable End to 2025 with National Badminton Crown

HYDERABAD

Surya Charishma Tamiri capped a breakthrough 2025 in emphatic fashion by clinching the women's singles title at the 87th Senior National Badminton Championships in Vijayawada, announcing her arrival on the senior stage with grit, composure and belief. The 19-year-old fought back from a game down to defeat Tanvi Patri 17-21, 21-12, 21-14 in the final on December 28, securing her maiden national crown.

Charishma's performance did not go unnoticed. Watching from the stands was Olympic medallist P.V. Sindhu, who praised the youngster's composure on social media as the final unfolded. Learning of Sindhu's message moments after her victory left Charishma momentarily speechless. Sindhu, a fellow Telugu athlete and long-time idol, has been a key source of inspiration for the rising shuttler.

The final tested Charishma's tactical awareness as much as her temperament. After losing the opening game, she recalibrated her approach, focusing on better length and patience to draw longer rallies. That shift proved decisive, helping her wrest control in the second game and carry belief into the decider. One of Charishma's standout moments in the tournament came earlier, when she stunned top seed Unnati Hooda in the quarterfinals — a win she rates among the most significant of her young career.

Behind the success lies years of quiet dedication and sacrifice. Charishma began structured training in the fourth standard and, two years later, started working with coach K. Bhaskar, under whom she continues to train. Her father, Naveen Babu Tamiri, a goldsmith by profession, has single-handedly supported her journey, often juggling financial pressures to keep her competitive.

Despite growing attention from major academies, family responsibilities have kept Charishma grounded in Vijayawada. Focused and clear-headed, her ambitions are firmly set on the international stage. "My life's goal is to play in the Olympics," she says. For now, the national title serves as a powerful confirmation that she is moving steadily in the right direction.

Sen, Satwik-Chirag Shine as Youth Signals Hope amid Transition

NEW DELHI

Indian badminton endured a challenging and often uneven 2025, marked by injuries, fluctuating form and limited success at the elite level, but flashes of brilliance from Lakshya Sen, the men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, and an impressive rise of young talent offered cautious optimism in a year of transition.

The season felt more like a period of reassessment than consolidation, with several established players struggling to find rhythm due to recurring fitness setbacks. Against that backdrop, Lakshya Sen's triumph at the Australian Open Super 500 stood out as India's most significant individual achievement. The title marked a return to form after a difficult post-Paris Olympics phase and was his first Super 500 crown since 2023. Sen also reached the Hong Kong Open final, signalling renewed consistency at the top level.

In an otherwise stop-start year, Satwik and Chirag reaffirmed their status as India's premier men's doubles pair despite battling injury and illness early in the season. Their bronze medal at the World Championships in Paris, finals appearances at the Hong Kong Open and China Masters, and a historic knockout-stage finish at the BWF World Tour Finals underscored their resilience and class.

Joe Root Calls It 'Silly' to Change England Management after Ashes Defeat

MELBOURNE

England batting great Joe Root has dismissed calls for a shake-up in the team's management following the loss of the Ashes, saying it would be "silly" to consider changes when players remain fully committed to the current leadership group.

England surrendered the coveted urn inside just 11 days, suffering heavy eight-wicket defeats in Perth and Brisbane, followed by an 82-run loss in Adelaide. The series unravelled rapidly, with criticism mounting over England's understated preparations and reports of excessive drinking during a mid-series break in Noosa.

However, England salvaged pride with a dramatic four-wicket victory in Melbourne, snapping an 18-match winless streak in Australia. The win eased pressure on head coach Brendon McCullum, captain Ben Stokes and managing director of men's cricket Rob Key, all of whom have expressed their desire to continue in their roles.

"In terms of the playing group, we're absolutely committed to the management," Root, England's all-time leading Test run-scorer, told media. "Yes, we can be better and there are certain areas we'll keep working at, but the management work extremely hard."

Root acknowledged that McCullum and Stokes operate differently from past regimes but credited them for driving progress. "They might do things in a slightly different way, but we've made great strides as a group, and a big reason for that is the guys we have behind us," he said.

Another victory in the fifth Test in Sydney, starting Sunday, would further strengthen the management's position. Root was England captain during the disastrous 2021–22 Ashes tour, when a 4-0 loss led to the departures of coach Chris Silverwood and director Ashley Giles. Reflecting on that period, Root said the current team has clearly evolved. "Every single player has improved individually. This team has improved," he said. "For the amount of hard work done, it would be silly to consider change."

Victory in Melbourne was Root's first in Australia in over a decade, and he stressed the importance of building momentum. "It would be better if we win next week as well," he said, eyeing progress ahead of England's next tour in 2029–30.

It Was Special to Be Part of That Amazing Group: Swimmer Dhinidhi Desinghu

BENGALURU

For Dhinidhi Desinghu, the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar ceremony was an unforgettable experience — not just for the honour she received, but for the inspiring company she found herself in. The 15-year-old swimmer from Karnataka was among 20 young achievers from across the country who were felicitated on December 26 at Rashtrapati Bhavan on the occasion of Veer Bal Diwas.

"I was amazed to witness so many talented children in our country from various fields," Dhinidhi said after the ceremony. "To know that I was part of that group is something really special. There were children as young as seven and nine receiving awards for bravery. It was inspiring, and I'm so happy I got to be part of it."

Training at Dolphin Aquatics in Bengaluru under renowned coach Nihar Ameen, Dhinidhi is no stranger to achievement. She was the youngest member of the Indian contingent at both the Paris Olympics and the 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou, milestones that underline her rapid rise in Indian swimming. Over the past five years, she has consistently dominated domestic competitions, setting the pool ablaze with her performances.

Despite an already impressive resume, Dhinidhi is acutely aware that the road ahead will be far more demanding. With a packed competitive calendar looming, the teenager remains focused on steady improvement rather than instant results.

"Compared to last year, this year was very different in terms of my swimming performance," she said. "This year was all about training and focusing on specific competitions. The outcome wasn't exactly what we wanted, but all my timings have improved. That makes me very excited about next year."

Balancing academics with elite sport remains another challenge. Currently preparing for her Class 10 examinations, Dhinidhi has pre-board exams starting January 1, followed by board exams in mid-February. Once that phase is over, her attention will shift fully to major international events.

"After my exams, there are many important competitions like the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and Youth Olympics," she said. "The goal will be to qualify and make it to the finals."

Grounded yet ambitious, Dhinidhi Desinghu continues to chase excellence — in the classroom and the pool — with quiet confidence and remarkable maturity for her age.

Arsenal stay top as City, Villa close in and Liverpool surge

Title race tightens as contenders surge, setting up gripping Premier League finale

MANCHESTER

Arsenal clung to the Premier League summit after a hard-fought 2-1 win over Brighton, but Manchester City and Aston Villa remain firmly in pursuit as the title race tightened to a three-point spread between first and third.

Mikel Arteta's side briefly felt the pressure after Manchester City moved top earlier in the day with a 2-1 victory at Nottingham Forest. Arsenal responded later by reclaiming pole position, opening a two-point cushion over City, while Villa sit just a further point back in third.

At the Emirates, Martin Odegaard set the tone with an early opener before Brighton's Georginio Rutter inadvertently turned a Declan Rice corner into his own net early in the second half. Brighton rallied late through Diego Gomez and nearly snatched an equaliser, but a superb David Raya save ensured Arsenal's grip on top spot. Remarkably, it was the fourth consecutive league game in which Arsenal benefited from an opponent's own goal.

City's momentum continued at the City Ground, where Rayan Cherki struck decisively in the 83rd minute to seal a sixth straight league win. The French forward also set up Tijjani Reijnders' earlier goal as Pep Guardiola's men extended their overall winning run to eight matches, underlining their readiness to reclaim the crown.

Aston Villa enhanced their title credentials with a dramatic 2-1 comeback at Chelsea. Introduced from the bench, Ollie Watkins inspired the turnaround by scoring twice, extending Villa's winning streak to 11 games in all competitions. Unai Emery's side now head to Arsenal on Tuesday knowing victory would draw them level on points at the turn of the year.

Liverpool's resurgence also gathered pace as they climbed to fourth with a 2-1 win over Wolves. Florian Wirtz scored his first Premier League goal to cap a fourth straight victory, stretching the defending champions' unbeaten run to seven games.

Elsewhere, Kevin Schade's hat-trick powered Brentford to a 4-1 rout of Bournemouth, Fulham edged West Ham 1-0, and Burnley and Everton played out a goalless draw — but the spotlight remains firmly on a thrilling three-way title chase.

Mahrez Penalty Sends Algeria Marching Into AFCON Last 16

RABAT

Algeria secured their place in the last 16 of the Africa Cup of Nations as captain Riyad Mahrez's first-half penalty earned a tense 1-0 victory over Burkina Faso. The decisive moment came midway through the opening half at the Moulay El Hassan Stadium, where Algeria then showed resilience and discipline to close out a bruising contest.

Mahrez converted from the spot in the 23rd minute after Rayan Ait-Nouri was bundled over inside the penalty area. The Algerian skipper made no mistake, adding to the brace he scored in the opening 3-0 win over Sudan to take his tally at this tournament to three goals.

The win lifts Algeria to a perfect six points from two matches in Group E, with no goals conceded so far. African champions in 1990 and 2019, Vladimir Petkovic's side have lived up to their billing as pre-tournament favourites and are now guaranteed to finish top of the group, regardless of their final match against Equatorial Guinea.

Captain's calm spot-kick seals hard-fought win as Algeria book knockout berth

Burkina Faso and Sudan remain locked on three points each and will contest the second qualifying spot when they meet in the final round of group games on Wednesday.

Algeria, meanwhile, will play their last-16 tie in Rabat on January 6.

"We were expecting a very tough match," said man-of-the-match Ibrahim Maza. "We fought very hard and the most important thing is that we won. Now we are qualified and that was the main goal."

The physical nature of the encounter was evident throughout, with Burkina Faso pressing hard in search of an equaliser. Pierre Landry Kabore came close with a header from a corner, while late efforts from Georgi Minoungou and others were narrowly off target.

Algeria also had chances to extend their lead, with Mahrez creating opportunities for Mohamed Amoura and Maza missing two good openings in the second half.

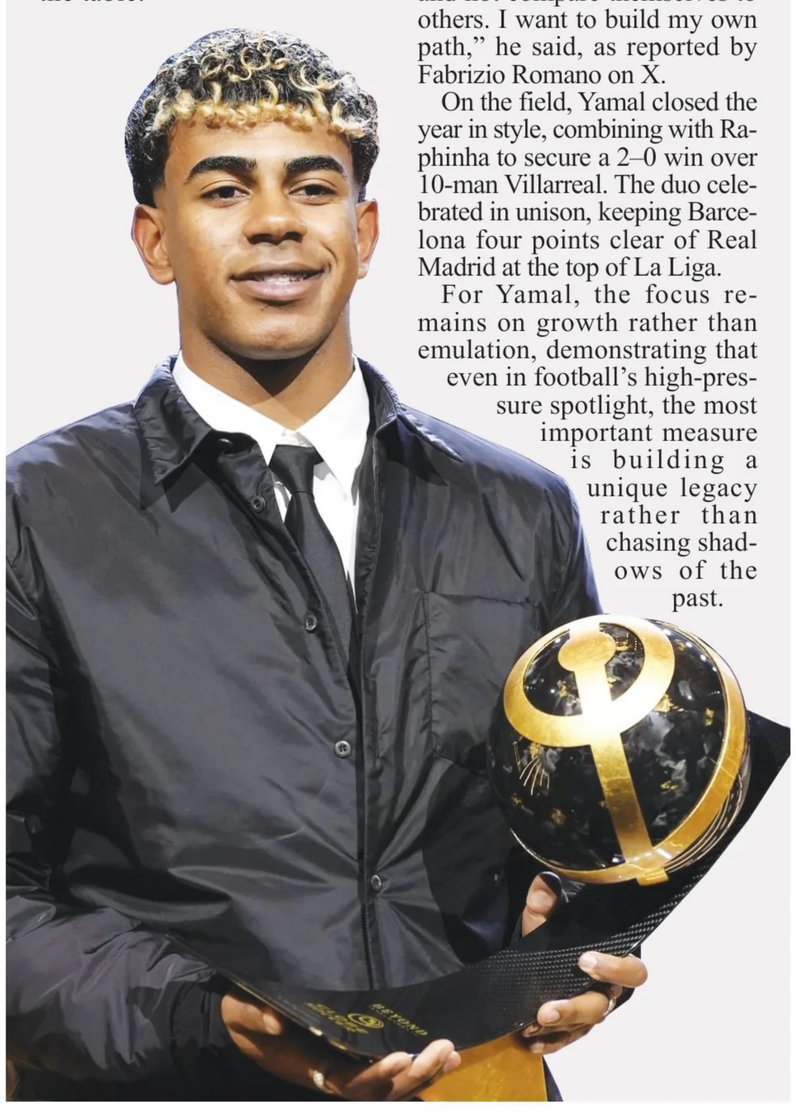
Appearing at his sixth AFCON, Mahrez now has nine goals at the tournament, an Algerian record. The match unfolded in a vibrant atmosphere, watched by 18,522 fans, with France legend Zinedine Zidane among those in attendance as his son Luca guarded Algeria's goal.

Lamine Yamal unfazed by Ronaldo comparisons, focuses on forging own path

BARCELONA

Teenage prodigy Lamine Yamal shrugged off comparisons with football legends like Cristiano Ronaldo, emphasizing the importance of carving out his own identity in the sport.

At just 18, Yamal has already become one of the most talked-about players in world football, combining skill, maturity, and an eye for decisive moments. This season, he has scored seven goals and provided six assists in La Liga, playing a pivotal role in Barcelona's surge to the top of the table.



The year-end accolades have mirrored his impact. Yamal was named Best Forward and received the prestigious Maradona Award at the Globe Soccer Awards, cementing his status as one of the brightest young talents globally. He also finished second in this year's Ballon d'Or and clinched the Kopa Trophy for the second consecutive season. Despite the comparisons to icons like Ronaldo, Yamal insists on forging his own path. "It's best not to compare yourself to anyone. Players like Cristiano Ronaldo did what they did because they wanted to be themselves and not compare themselves to others. I want to build my own path," he said, as reported by Fabrizio Romano on X.

On the field, Yamal closed the year in style, combining with Raphinha to secure a 2–0 win over 10-man Villarreal. The duo celebrated in unison, keeping Barcelona four points clear of Real Madrid at the top of La Liga.

For Yamal, the focus remains on growth rather than emulation, demonstrating that even in football's high-pressure spotlight, the most important measure is building a unique legacy rather than chasing shadows of the past.

Spurs edge Palace to ease pressure while Leeds snatch draw at Sunderland

Tottenham Deliver Big Win for Frank as Calvert-Lewin Denies Sunderland

LONDON

Tottenham Hotspur ground out a much-needed Premier League victory as Archie Gray's first senior goal sealed a 1-0 win over Crystal Palace, easing the pressure on under-fire manager Thomas Frank. Elsewhere, Dominic Calvert-Lewin continued his fine scoring run to earn Leeds United a 1-1 draw at Sunderland, denying the hosts a place in the top five.

At Selhurst Park, Gray proved an unlikely hero, heading home Richarlison's flick-on from a corner to secure Spurs' second league win in nine games. The goal came after Richarlison had twice seen efforts ruled out for offside, highlighting Tottenham's continued struggles for fluency in attack.

Nevertheless, Frank's side showed resilience to cling on against a Palace team showing signs of fatigue after a demanding run of fixtures.

"In the end we got over the line," said Frank. "The team showed great resilience today. The desire beat the details."

Crystal Palace dominated possession after the break but lacked cutting edge in the final third. Justin Devenny blazed over from close range, while Maxence Lacroix headed wide. Spurs survived another scare when Richarlison again found the net, only for VAR to intervene. The win lifts Tottenham to 11th, just a point behind ninth-placed Palace, and offers temporary relief to Frank amid growing scrutiny.

ISL Clubs Seek Further Clarity on Costs and Structure

BENGALURU

The long-delayed Indian Super League (ISL) season is inching closer to a possible resolution, with clubs broadly aligned with the All India Football Federation's (AIFF) proposed 20-year roadmap. However, major questions remain unanswered, particularly over who will bear the operational costs estimated at over ₹70 crore for running the league.

AIFF's suggested revenue-sharing formula — a 10-50-40 split between the federation, clubs and commercial partners — along with a standard annual participation fee of ₹1 crore per club, has found acceptance among most franchises. Yet, clubs are uneasy about the lack of clarity on securing a commercial partner, especially after AIFF's earlier tender failed to attract bidders due to what was widely seen as an overly ambitious financial model.

Club representatives, led by Mohun Bagan Super Giants CFO Vinay Chopra, have stressed the need for AIFF to first identify how the league's operational expenses will be funded before finalising the structure for the upcoming season. "Nothing is more important than where the ₹70–80 crore required to host the league will come from," a senior club official said on condition of anonymity.

Building India's Sporting Future: Beyond Bids and Medals

NEW DELHI

For a nation with India's talent, ambition and demographic strength, sport must rise far beyond episodic celebration. As India steps forward to host major international events — including the 2030 Commonwealth Games — a fundamental question confronts us: do bids alone build a sporting nation? The answer is clear. Bidding is not the culmination of progress; it is only the beginning. Hosting global events offers opportunity, not shortcuts. No country has transformed its sporting culture merely by staging a spectacle. However, well-planned hosting can act as a catalyst, forcing systems to evolve. Infrastructure upgrades, sports science, governance reforms and athlete welfare often gain urgency under international scrutiny. But without a long-term vision, such investments risk becoming hollow monuments. Stadiums do not create champions — strong grassroots programmes, school competitions, scholarships and coach education do.

Medals, too, are not forged in ceremonies. They are produced by continuity, care and patient athlete development. Hosting can enhance the environment in which athletes train by improving facilities, exposure and officiating standards, but excellence emerges only when these benefits are sustained long after the spotlight fades. History shows that sporting success often follows hosting cycles, not coincides with them. India's successful bid for the 2030 Commonwealth Games reflected this understanding. It was built on unity and credibility rather than extravagant promises.

Finish Line 2025: The Year of Bidding for Indian Sport

CHENNAI

As 2025 draws to a close, Indian sport finds itself at an intriguing crossroads. On the field, the country continues to struggle for consistency at the Olympics. Off it, India has never been more ambitious, securing the 2030 Commonwealth Games and formally entering dialogue with the International Olympic Committee for the 2036 Olympics. The contrast between performance and aspiration defines the year.

India's Olympic journey over the past decade tells a mixed story. After the high of six medals at London 2012, hopes soared heading into Rio 2016, only for disappointment to follow with just two medals. Tokyo 2021 offered renewed belief with seven medals, including Neeraj Chopra's historic gold, but Paris 2024 again saw stagnation, with six medals and no top podium finish. Heavy investment in coaching, foreign expertise and infrastructure has yet to translate into sustained upward momentum, pointing to systemic gaps.

Yet, in the realm of hosting, India has surged ahead. Ahmedabad was confirmed as the host city for the 2030 Commonwealth Games, a bid marked more by unanimity and credibility than competition. India was the sole contender, stepping in after others withdrew over rising costs. Parallelly, India's intent to host the 2036 Olympics was publicly articulated at the IOC Congress in Mumbai, signalling long-term ambition.

Hosting, however, remains a high-stakes affair. The 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games left behind upgraded facilities but also corruption scandals, cost overruns and underutilised venues. Global studies increasingly show that mega events rarely make economic sense, with cities like Athens, Rio and Victoria bearing heavy financial scars.

Experts argue that hosting can still be transformative — if aligned with long-term athlete development, governance reform and sustainable infrastructure. Without that alignment, bids risk becoming façades. As India looks ahead to 2030 and possibly 2036, the challenge is clear: hosting must accelerate sporting progress, not distract from it. The true finish line is not winning the bid, but building a genuine sporting powerhouse.

City Hilights (English Daily) published by P. Sunil Kumar (Publisher) on behalf of Immaculate Broadcasting Consortium World News (P) Ltd., No. 18, JRV Court, Queens's Road, Bengaluru – 560001 and printed at Manipal Media Network Limited Opp. Govt School, Kempalinganahalli, Near Kunigal Cross, Nelamangala TQ, Bangalore Rural Dist. -562123, Printed at No-7/2 plot no.CA-3/1,28(p)&29(p) Kapanoor 2nd Stage Industrial Area Kapnoor Village Kalaburagi -585104. Printed at S. J. R. V. Printers, No. 208 Plot No. B-019 KSSIDC Industrial Area, Irfan Ahamed Khan Pathan, 4th Main Road Gamanagatti, Hubballi-Dharwad – 580025. and Elegant Offset Printers Pvt. Ltd. No. 5-61/1, Shed No. M-6, Yeyyadi Industrial Estate, Yeyyadi, Mangalore - 575 008.
(RNI No: KARENG / 2015 / 63243), Regd. No. BGGPO-2581/2017-2019 Posted at Bengaluru PSO-560026 Email - cityhilights.news@gmail.com Phone: 080-41209042. Copyright. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited.